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The New York Times

The (not so) neutral Swiss

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ITV reporter Ayala Hasson (right) meets with Cmdr. Sando Mazor (left), head of the Police Investigations Unit, and Asst.-Cmdr. Doron Beit-Nir at TV House in Jerusalem yesterday. (Brian Handley)

'Bar-On Affair' probe begins

Hefetz hopes to conclude within 'a few days'

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR and EVELYN GORDON

Police Inspector-General Assaf. Hefetz expressed hope yesterday that the investigation into the "Bar-On for Hebron" affair would be concluded within a few days.

"I hope the investigation will be over in a few days," Hefetz told reporters at National Police Headquarters after a special police investigative team was appointed under the deputy head of investigations, Lt.-Cmdr. Ya'acov Grossman.

Noting the "public importance and sensitivity of the highest order" involved, Hefetz added: "I feel it's not good to drag out an issue

like this; it has to be clarified as soon as possible."

Acting Attorney-General Edna Arbel yesterday ordered the police to begin an immediate investigation into the abortive appointment of

Channel 1, Hasson stand by story, Page 2

Roni Bar-On as attorney-general, and instructed them to complete it as soon as possible. Arbel made this decision after a two-hour

meeting with Cmdr. Sando Mazor, head of the Police Investigations Division, in response to last week's Channel 1 report alleging that Bar-On's appointment had been demanded by Shas MK Aryeh Deri as the price of Shas's support in the cabinet vote on the Hebron redeployment.

Deri, according to the report, wanted Bar-On because the latter had promised him a plea bargain in the criminal case against him, which would enable him to resume a cabinet seat.

Arbel said the suspicions raised by this report created a "supreme national interest" in getting

Continued on Page 2

Rubinstein named as A-G

By EVELYN GORDON and LIAT COLLINS

Jerusalem District Court Judge Elyakim Rubinstein will be the next attorney-general, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi announced yesterday.

The appointment must be approved by the cabinet, which is to meet on Wednesday for this purpose. Rubinstein - a respected jurist with a lengthy career in the civil service - is expected to win easy approval.

Hanegbi said yesterday that Supreme Court Justice Aharon Barak has also given the appointment his blessing.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu congratulated Rubinstein on his appointment, and said: "The appointment will add a great deal of honor and integrity to the Israeli legal system."

Rubinstein was rumored to be the government's first choice for the attorney-generalship even before the appointment of Roni Bar-On, but he was reportedly not interested in the job. After the Bar-On fiasco, however, Hanegbi approached him again, and Rubinstein agreed to take the job yesterday.

Hanegbi said he thought Rubinstein's appointment would



Elyakim Rubinstein

"strengthen the rule of law in Israel and make an important contribution to the legal system."

The proposed appointment of Rubinstein was greeted warmly in political circles. Knesset Law Committee Chairman Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) said: "We are talking about the right man, who was elected to the right position at the right time to bring about the desired calm in the country's judiciary."

"The Netanyahu government needs more than anything else the legal advice of a decent person

and I believe Rubinstein will be faithful to the law, justice and democratic values as he has proven to be in the past," Labor faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen said. "Had this appointment been made before it could have prevented the whole scandal and mess surrounding the appointment of Roni Bar-On."

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid praised the appointment, saying: "He is a man of experience and integrity and is deserving of this esteemed position as the position is deserving of him."

Law Committee member Alex Lubotzky (Third Way) praised the appointment and said: "It will go a long way in restoring public faith in the judicial system and easing the conflicts over law versus Halacha."

Rubinstein, 50, received his law degree from Hebrew University. He began his civil service career more than 20 years ago as an aide to then-defense minister Moshe Dayan, and rose to deputy head of the Defense Ministry's legal department before moving with Dayan to the Foreign Ministry as the latter's bureau chief in 1977.

He was involved in the Camp David negotiations with Egypt, and in 1981 became the Foreign

Continued on Page 2

Likud, Labor MKs sign plan for final status

By LIAT COLLINS

Three Labor MKs, led by Yossi Beilin, and five Likud MKs, headed by Michael Eitan, have signed a document entitled a "National Agreement Regarding the Negotiations on the Permanent Settlement with the Palestinians," drawn up after three months of discussions.

Members of both parties yesterday presented President Ezer Weizman with the document. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Labor leader Shimon Peres also have been given copies. The Prime

Minister's Office has repeated its statement that the discussions were taken at a personal initiative and do not obligate the Likud or the government.

Several MKs who participated

Excerpts of document, Page 12

in the talks did not agree to sign the final document, but both Beilin and Eitan said others are expected to put their names to it. It

was signed for Labor by Beilin, Haim Ramon and Shlomo Ben-Ami and by Likud-led MKs Eitan, Ze'ev Boim, Meir Sheerit, Yehuda Lankri and Eliezer Zandberg.

The document contains nine sections ranging in subject from borders and security to water, economy and education.

Two points on which the teams could not agree and on which more than one version was suggested were the Jordan Valley and the nature of the Palestinian entity.

Continued on Page 2

Rabbi helps Shahak find grandfather's grave

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

His whole life, Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak only knew his grandfather had been buried somewhere on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives. But thanks to the persistent efforts of a local rabbi, Shahak, 52, took a break from his defense duties last week to visit the grave for the first time.

His grandfather, Rabbi Moshe-Yitzhak Lipkin, was a Carlin Hasid who died 75 years ago. He was buried in the sect's plot, but its exact location was never recorded by the burial society.

Rabbi Yehoshua Sheinberger, chairman of the Halachic Medicine Organization and a close friend of Shahak, heard the story and took it upon himself to find the grandfather's grave. He eventually located an elderly man who knew Rabbi Lipkin and who directed him to the grave.

"I found a neglected and weed-covered tombstone," Sheinberger said. "I cleaned it up and polished the stone."

Last Wednesday, Sheinberger led Shahak, surrounded by some of his closest aides, to his grandfather's grave for the first time in his life. A minyan was formed, psalms said and prayers recited. At one point, Shahak, the commander of the IDF, was left alone at the graveside.

"I felt satisfied that I was able to help Amnon find his grandfather's grave," Sheinberger said. "I felt that I was giving him a spiritual gift."

Swiss diplomat terms crisis over Nazi dealings 'war'

ZURICH (AP) - Switzerland's ambassador to the US described the mounting crisis over alleged Swiss dealings with Nazis in "World War II in terms of a "war" that must be won, a newspaper reported yesterday.

An internal strategy report that Ambassador Carlo Jäggi sent to Switzerland in December also spoke of opponents who "cannot be trusted," the *SonntagsZeitung* newspaper said.

In the confidential document, which was leaked to the newspaper Friday, Jäggi describes the barrage of allegations against the country as a "war" that Switzerland "has to fight and win on two fronts: external and internal."

Jewish claims must be settled in one general payment, he said. Then

"peace would return on all levels."

He also writes that a "deal" to end the crisis is possible because Jewish groups and US Senator Alfonse D'Amato "must be quickly satisfied," the newspaper said.

Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg reacted angrily to the ambassador's choice of words.

"If we are the enemies, then he truly has a war on his hands," he said in Denmark, where he was en route to Zurich for the January 30 meeting of the Swiss bankers association committee.

"Fortunately, modern Jewry of the last 50 years has developed a strange habit of not losing wars. It seems that Jäggi belongs to the old school of thought, which

maintains that Jews should be pursued by persecution and that verbal violence can be used as means of persuasion," Burg said. "This incident must immediately be publicly renounced and its messenger privately disciplined."

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Yosef rejects Deri's request to quit

By SARAH HONIG

Shas rallied around its beleaguered leader Aryeh Deri yesterday and the party's mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef announced that he was rejecting Deri's request to quit politics.

Deri had reportedly told Yosef that he had had enough after he was accused of threatening to bring down the government and vote against the Hebron agreement if Roni Bar-On was not appointed attorney-general. His support for Bar-On, according to charges aired by TV's Channel 1, hinged on Bar-On's alleged willingness to pay for his appointment by allowing Deri to plead guilty to a misdemeanor at his current trial.

Yosef underscored the sense of grievance in the party when he said that he personally feels slighted by the notion that the party's support for the Hebron agreement is being considered a trade-off for a plea bargain for Deri.

All of Shas's MKs, its ministers and Council of Torah Sages gathered in Yosef's home last night to express solidarity with Deri, who was absent himself. The MKs and ministers then all called on Deri.

When all the meetings were concluded MK Shlomo Benizri - considered Deri's leading competitor inside Shas - read out the party resolution "rejecting this latest in a series of libels against Deri." Benizri explained that "we have decided to get together because a friend of ours is in trouble and distress. He is being accused of being a mafia chief, no less, and we want him to know that we are one with him."

Yosef said that whatever charges are leveled at Deri "are in effect leveled at me, too. Shas voted for the Hebron agreement because of my Halachic ruling. Those who say it was all done because of a deal to win a plea bargain for Deri insult me. It is as if my rulings have nothing to do with the Halacha, but with immediate

gains. These people are saying that in fact Hebron means nothing to me except what I can get in return for abandoning it, that it is merchandise to be bartered with."

Participants at yesterday's meeting said Yosef had received a message from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who expressed his faith in Deri. Yosef, *The Jerusalem Post* was told, was very grateful and a meeting between him and Netanyahu might take place soon.

Deri himself continued to vehemently deny yesterday that he sought to win a plea bargain or that he foiled the appointment of his own private attorney Dan Avitah as attorney-general. Deri dismissed Channel 2's hints that it was Avitah who had leaked the accusations against Deri to Channel 1.

Shas members reportedly believe the NRP was getting the Bar-On appointment was

voted upon in the cabinet earlier in the month, the NRP complained that it was part of a Shas deal in return for its support on Hebron. The theory in Shas is that Channel 1 proceeded from there and embellished the NRP scenario.

However, NRP leader Zevulun Hammer yesterday denied spreading the story. "I didn't know anything," he said about a Hebron deal with Shas, he claimed, adding that he "has no doubt the prime minister would have nothing to do with anything close to such a conspiracy."

Meanwhile, Shas sources say they are appealing to a higher authority via a Tikkun ritual to be conducted by aged Kabbalist Rabbi Yitzhak Kaduri tomorrow. Deri will reportedly begin fasting tonight and will go on fasting till sundown tomorrow.

The ritual, to be attended by 40 Kabbalists, is to symbolize cleansing from all evil fortune and a rebirth. Deri himself refused to confirm the report.



Head of the Police Investigations Unit Cmdr. Sando Mazor meets with Channel 1 head Yair Stern yesterday at Television House in Jerusalem to discuss the Bar-On affair report. (Brian Handler)

Channel 1: We're not retracting anything concerning PM's involvement

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Channel 1 yesterday stood behind the initial report on the "Bar-On for Hebron" affair, which exposed an alleged conspiracy in the abortive appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney-general, and firmly rejected the claim that it had changed its version on Friday night's *Yoman* weekly newscast.

Sources in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office accused Channel 1 of first implying that Netanyahu was involved in the affair in last Wednesday's report, and then changing their version and stating "Netanyahu was not in on the secret of the deal Bar-On promised Deri." The Prime Minister's Office

demanding an apology from Channel 1.

Channel 1 sources, including reporter Ayala Hasson, who broke the story, denied changing anything in the original story, stressing they had never reported that Netanyahu knew of the Deri-Bar-On deal, but that Netanyahu was aware of the pressures to appoint Bar-On.

Hasson said in a radio interview, "To my regret people did not understand things properly. On Friday night we said 'Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was not in on the secret of the deal, at the time it was concocted between Deri and Bar-On.' That's the way it was put and there is no contradiction to any detail of the affair we broadcast earlier."

Hasson also said yesterday that she was not

afraid, because her story is ironclad and can stand the test of a libel case, if it comes to that.

She said the story was checked and double-checked not only by her but by her superiors including news director Rafik Halaby, who even spoke to some of her sources. "We examined it thoroughly and took into consideration before broadcasting it, that we might be sued for libel and have to appear in court. And we will win in a libel suit. All that we took into consideration. The media's job is to bring things to the public and to make sure the story is accurate. I don't have to think further. Beyond that - police investigations, toppling governments and forming new ones - it's not our responsibility."

BACKGROUND

Channel 1 must give police all but source's identity, says Negbi

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Channel 1 must give the police all the material it asks for and which is relevant to the affair, except material that might expose the source of its story, IBA and *Ma'ariv's* legal commentator Moshe Negbi said in a radio interview yesterday.

Negbi said that if the police concludes that the material which exposes sources is vital to the investigation and for finding the guilty parties - a conclusion it can reach only after investigating all those involved - then it can go to court. If the police convinces the court that exposing the source is vital, only then will television have to reveal it.

Negbi cited the April 1987 ruling of the Supreme Court president Meir Shamgar, who recognized the right of journalists not to reveal their sources, unless the exposure is relevant and vitally important to cracking the case.

Negbi said that on the basis of the reports, statements and information which have come out since the first broadcast on the "Bar-On for Hebron" affair, there is no doubt that an investigation is called for.

"Also, the statements made by people on both channels indicate

that there are matters the police must investigate, regardless of the source of the initial Channel 1 broadcast. For instance, Deri's involvement in the appointment of the attorney-general, which Deri himself admits; the fact that the appointment depended to a large extent on Deri's agreement; or that he could veto the appointment. Here you don't have to expose any sources."

"The very fact that a man suspected of criminal offenses, bribery and grave charges is the one to decide who the attorney-general should be, and that he is consulted about this, is something which in a state of law must be probed. It raises the suspicion of breach of trust," he said.

"Those in charge of appointing the attorney-general are the prime minister, justice minister and the cabinet. Deri is not a minister, among other reasons because the court decided that a man charged with criminal offenses should not sit in the cabinet."

Negbi said it is a mistake to think that the exposure or refusal to expose a source is only a media interest.

"It's a public interest of the first degree, because if a source cannot be sure of remaining anonymous, people won't expose acts of cor-

ruption to the media and they will never reach the public."

ITV legal advisor Amit Shechter said that the question of immunity was "relative." He said that a journalist was entitled to continue withholding his sources unless he received a court order to reveal them "in order for justice to be done on a substantive issue."

He said he would advise Halaby and Hasson to "act according to the law and the rules of journalistic ethics" and to withhold their sources unless ordered otherwise by a court.

Journalist and television personality Dsn Margalit said if he were in the position of those who exposed the affair, "I would refuse to give the police material which could expose the source, and I'm sure Halaby and Hasson would do the same."

If the court should order it, after the police had consumed every other way of investigation, then we can talk.

"But now? Right at the beginning, to look for the coin under the street lamp? Go question the many people mentioned in the affair, before coming to me right at the start, with something which can cause me so much damage."

Batsheva Tsor contributed to this report.

Ha'etzi only Israeli ever jailed for protecting sources

By HERB KENON

The attorney-general's threat to take the Israel Broadcasting Authority to court to get it to reveal its sources for the Deri-Bar-On story has sent journalists to the archives looking up entries under Elyakim Ha'etzi and Shurat Hamitadvin.

Ha'etzi, then a 30-year-old Mapai activist and a recent law school graduate, was the first and only Israeli to be held for contempt of court for not revealing the sources of information on which he claimed to have based allegations included in a booklet he edited for Shurat Hamitadvin in 1957. Today Ha'etzi is a Kiryat Arita lawyer and leading settlement ideologue.

Ha'etzi expressed no sympathy

for Channel 1 reporter Ayala Hasson, who may be asked during the probe to reveal her sources.

"When you get into a situation like this, you know you can harm, or be harmed," said Ha'etzi, who to this day has not revealed the source of his information.

Ha'etzi said that it should be possible for Hasson to present evidence backing up her story without revealing her sources. "But there has to be evidence, even from journalists," Ha'etzi said. "Otherwise it would be a jungle."

Ha'etzi is one of the founders of Shurat Hamitadvin, a group set up in 1951 by students and intellectuals to provide social assistance to new immigrants and help them in their absorption process. The group gradually turned into a reform movement. It

published a pamphlet in 1955 called *Danger Lurks from Within* that warned of corruption.

One of the examples in the pamphlet was an accusation that then-police deputy insp.-gen. Amos Ben-Gurion, the son of David Ben-Gurion, used his position to have a criminal file closed improperly. Ha'etzi was imprisoned for 10 days for failing to reveal the source of the accusations against Ben-Gurion.

Ben-Gurion sued Ha'etzi and three other plaintiffs, and won the case in the Tel Aviv District Court, where Ha'etzi was held for contempt. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court, that found that then-police insp.-gen. Yehezkel Sahar lied at the trial. Sahar was later forced to resign, and Ben-Gurion soon also resigned.

Two killed in crash IDF probes recruit's death

Two people were killed and one seriously injured in an accident involving two trucks and a car near Zichron Ya'acov yesterday evening.

The crash occurred on the Zichron Ya'acov interchange, linking the old Haifa road and the Coastal Highway. The victims were trapped in their vehicles.

The two were declared dead by Magen David Adom, and the third was rushed to a hospital.

Itm

OC Ground Forces Maj.-Gen. Amos Malcha has ordered an inquiry into the death of artillery recruit Pvt. Roi Ben-Natan, who was found dead in his tent yesterday at his training base, Ben-Natan, of Haifa, is to be buried at the military cemetery there today.

According to the IDF Spokesman, he was involved in a training exercise when he was sent back to his tent to fetch his equipment. When he didn't return, his comrades found him dead in his tent.

Archie O'Sullivan

BAR-ON

Continued from Page 1

to the root of the matter - both to prosecute anyone guilty of such a corrupt deal and to clear the suspects' names if they are innocent.

"There was a disclosure here which, unfortunately, caused shock waves. This demands an inquiry, an investigation - in my opinion, a rapid one - which I hope will lead to the discovery of the truth," she said. "Like every citizen of Israel... I hope we will get at the truth [of this report]."

Arbel told Mazar that his first step should be to demand any relevant information from television reporter Ayala Hasson, who broke the story. If the television refuses, she said, she will seriously consider asking for a court order to force Hasson to reveal her sources, because of the gravity of the charges.

Mazar will personally supervise the team of investigators working on the case. Arbel herself and Deputy Attorney-General Yehoshua Resnick will be keeping close tabs on the investigation as well.

Peres and Yitzhak Rabin. In 1991, Shamir appointed him to head the Madrid peace talks, with the Palestinians and Jordanians, and Rabin kept him on as head of talks with the Jordanians after the Oslo Accords were signed.

Rubinstein finally resigned as cabinet secretary in April 1994, reportedly because he was upset at having been left in the dark over the Oslo Accords. He then served as the Defense Ministry's legal adviser until his appointment to the Jerusalem District Court in June 1995.

RUBINSTEIN

Continued from Page 1

Ministry's legal adviser. He later did a stint as political counselor at the Israel Embassy in Washington, and was eventually appointed cabinet secretary in 1986.

Rubinstein served as cabinet secretary for seven and a half years, under both Likud prime minister Yitzhak Shamir and Labor prime ministers Shimon

FINAL PLAN

Continued from Page 1

The Labor MKs supported a version which reads: "The Jordan Valley will be a special security zone and Israeli army forces will be posted along the Jordan. The residents of the area will be able to remain where they are."

The Likud MKs, and Zandberg in particular, favored the option which insists on Israeli sovereignty over the Jordan Valley. Clause C of the document on the status of the Palestinian entity reads: "If the Palestinian entity subjects itself to the limits presented in this document, its self-determination will be recognized. According to an alternative opinion it will be regarded as an enlarged autonomy, and according to another opinion as a state."

Among the most important points on which the MKs agreed are the principle that there will be no return to the 1967 borders; the majority of settlers will continue to live in their settlements under Israeli sovereignty "in order to preserve territorial contiguity between the settlements and the State of Israel;" residents of settlements not annexed would retain their citizenship and be given the right of safe passage; and the Palestinian entity will be demilitarized.

The MKs also agreed that

Jerusalem will remain the unified capital of Israel with its existing municipal borders.

"The Palestinians will recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and Israel will recognize the governing center of the Palestinian entity which will be within the borders of the entity and outside the existing municipal borders of Jerusalem," the agreement states.

Muslim and Christian holy places will be granted special status and residents of Arab neighborhoods will "share in the responsibility of the administration of their lives in the city."

Israel will be able to prevent the entry of Palestinian refugees, but will allow some to enter the Palestinian entity. The limits will be determined in the negotiations on the permanent arrangements.

The document calls for an effort to finalize the borders between Israel and the Palestinian entity before the intended date for further redeployment, but if they are not finalized before the third redeployment, Israel will redeploy in a way which means up to 50 percent of the West Bank will be designated as Area A and B territories.

At a news conference in the Knesset, Eitan described the talks between the MKs as "a" attempt to examine the scope of agreement and disagreement regarding the permanent arrangements." He said he had approached the talks

without compromising the camp he comes from "first and foremost settlement and the Land of Israel."

He said the clause saying the majority of Jewish settlements would be annexed to Israel and remain where they are under Israeli sovereignty "is an incredible achievement."

Beilin emphasized that the document was the first time Likud MKs accepted the idea of a border within the Land of Israel. He described it as a "plan of 'eyes' and not 'nays'" as its opponents on the left predicted. "It's a plan for peace with peace at home." He said nothing in the document contradicted the so-called Beilin-Abu Mazen Plan, but that the two plans were separate.

Ramon said the paper reflects the opinion of Yitzhak Rabin, for example that 50% of the West Bank would be considered either Area A or B.

The publication of the document stirred a wave of opposition among MKs on both left and right. Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled described it as "anti-Zionist" and at a Tsomet faction meeting last night demanded Zandberg be removed from his position as faction chairman for signing.

MK Taleb al-Sanaa (Democratic Arab Party) condemned it and said the Palestinians would not be able to accept it.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said

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By EVELYN GORDON

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Reform pray at Western Wall

By HAIM SHAPIRO

A group of some 50 Reform rabbis from the US yesterday succeeded in praying with only minor interruptions at the Western Wall, but failed to convince Prime Minister Netanyahu to withdraw his support from the proposed Conversion Law, which would, in effect, delegitimize Reform conversion in Israel.

Rabbi Amiel Hirsch, executive director of ARZA, the Zionist organization of the Reform movement, said that he was fairly satisfied by the meeting with Netanyahu, the first of a Reform group with the prime minister. Hirsch said that Netanyahu had made an effort to listen, had shown understanding, and had even admitted that the issue of conversion and Israel's relationship with Diaspora Jewry was more complex than he had originally imagined.

Hirsch stressed the positive aspects of the meeting, noting that Netanyahu had told them he had visited many Reform synagogues abroad. The Reform rabbis said they invited the prime minister to visit a Reform congregation in Israel, an invitation which Netanyahu did not take them up on, but also did not reject. However, as far as the Conversion Law is concerned, the Reform leaders admitted that Netanyahu had indicated to them that coalition pressures would force him to back the proposed legislation.

"If the purpose of the mission was to produce a change (in the government), then we have failed," Hirsch said.

If Hirsch was only moderately positive about the meeting with Netanyahu, he was very downbeat



A group of Reform rabbis from the US pray at the Western Wall yesterday, where they encountered only minor disturbances. (Flash 90)

about a meeting with Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky last week in which, Hirsch said, Sharansky appeared to lack any sympathy or understanding for the Reform position.

"It was our understanding that he didn't get it," Hirsch said.

Hirsch added that if this was a

posture, it was extremely disappointing that a man who could stand up to the entire Soviet regime would not be able to stand up to a group of Jewish extremists. If, on the other hand, Sharansky had indeed not understood the issue, it was also disturbing, since it meant that the Reform had failed

to reach the Russian immigrants, a group which they had sought to defend.

The prayer at the Wall, with the participation of women rabbis, some wearing tallitot and kippot, was held with the police restraining the few individuals who tried to interrupt the service. The

police, Hirsch said, had treated the visitors with respect.

"We consider it a very important precedent that we can indeed come and pray like everyone else. We will tell our groups that they can go closer to the Wall than they did in the past," he said.

France pledges investigation of confiscated Jewish assets

By ELDAD BECK

PARIS — French Prime Minister Alain Juppé Saturday evening announced his intention to form a committee "as soon as possible" to investigate Jewish property confiscated during World War II.

The committee would "evaluate the extent of robberies (and) ... find the current location of this property and its legal situation," he said, stressing that this is "a national duty."

No significant effort to compensate relatives of Holocaust victims has been made yet.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the Representative Council of

Jewish Institutions in France (CRIF), the official leadership of the French Jewish community, Juppé stated that it is necessary to prepare an inventory of the confiscated assets that are held today by French or foreign public authorities.

He was referring mainly to recent charges that the Paris Municipality now owns hundreds of buildings and apartments in the Marais quarter that were owned and/or occupied by Jews before World War II and which were systematically evacuated during and after the war in an ethnic purification operation executed by French authorities.

Before the war, the Marais area, which is located on the Seine's right

bank, was inhabited by thousands of French Jews and Jewish refugees who had fled Central and Eastern Europe hoping to find shelter from the ascending Nazi and fascist movements all over the continent.

Claiming it had to fight the tuberculosis that ravaged certain poor quarters of Paris, the city's administration planned to evacuate the Marais and then turn it into a residential quarter for municipal employees.

While under German occupation, the Paris Municipality confiscated or purchased at very low prices 403 buildings in one of Paris's most expensive quarters and evacuated Jewish residents on the basis of

emergency laws the Vichy regime passed. The city also claimed holdings that were left behind by Jews who fled from France after the occupation or were deported to concentration camps.

The holdings, confiscated from Jews and non-Jews, became the "private domain" of the city council. Since the liberation, Parisian

prefects and mayors have used this domain to lodge their relatives as well as French politicians, officials, artists and journalists connected to different political parties, mainly those close to the right-wing parties. Some apartments were rented at low prices. Juppé was among those who benefited from this privilege.

Ran Cohen accuses Hoter-Yishai, Appel of illegal business practices

By EVELYN GORDON

BAR Association Chairman Dror Hoter-Yishai and businessman David Appel should be investigated for criminal activity in connection with the Ganei Aviv housing project, MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) demanded in a petition to the High Court of Justice yesterday.



A distinct honor

The Jerusalem Post's health, science and technology reporter, Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, receives one of Hadassah's Distinction Awards yesterday at the Knesset. The award was launched to mark the 85th anniversary of the largest Jewish women's organization in the US and due to be given annually to outstanding Israeli and American women in their fields. Other recipients were: Reuma Weizman (a special award for social advocacy and public service over the years); Galia Mason, general manager of Bank Leumi (finance and economy); Gila Almogor (in the field of arts and for her efforts on behalf of the mentally ill); and Prof. Ruth Arnon and Dr. Dvora Teitelbaum, two of the Weizmann Institute researchers who developed the multiple sclerosis drug Copaxone (health and scientific research).

Hoter-Yishai controls Migdal Hazohar, the company which is building Ganei Aviv, and Appel also was heavily involved in the project, the petition said.

In the petition, Cohen said that in November 1994, he gave the police material indicating that the two had siphoned substantial sums away from Migdal Hazohar and its

sister company, Papo Building Enterprises. This money was put into straw companies to evade taxes, Cohen charged.

In March 1995, Cohen gave additional material to the police, according to which some NIS 9 million had been paid to a company called Neveh Holdings in allegedly fictitious "consulting and management" fees.

In addition, he charged, Migdal Hazohar built and marketed 2,000 apartments when it had permits for only 800, thereby violating the Planning and Building Law. It also violated various court orders.

In July 1995, police told Cohen they had decided not to investigate the Ganei Aviv affair. However, Cohen said, they have never given him their reasons for this decision.

In October 1995, Cohen appealed the police's decision to then attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair. Since then, 15 months have passed, and there has still been no decision on the matter from the Attorney-General's Office, he said.

Heavy rains help little

By DAVID RUDGE

Torrential rain last week which brought flooding to central parts of the country has done little to improve the country's hydrological imbalance, according to Knesset Economics Committee chairman Eli Goldschmidt.

"We just have to hope and pray that the remainder of this month and especially February will bring bountiful rain and prevent the prospect of a drought being declared," said Goldschmidt.

"The rain last week fell mainly in the central district, but there was not so much in the North. The level of water in Lake Kinneret is still only 1.50 meters from its minimum mark," he said.

NEWS

in brief

Funds OK'd for eastern Jerusalem development

The Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem approved a request yesterday for an additional NIS 130 million for development and infrastructure improvement in eastern Jerusalem. The committee, headed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, was also asked by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert to approve another 40 policemen for duty in east Jerusalem. The municipality send the funds are for improving the sewage system, roads, and school buildings in the city's eastern sector. *Itm*

Woman gets transplant from half a lung

A lung was cut down to half its size and transplanted into the chest of a 60-year-old woman by Sheba Hospital surgeons on Saturday. Last night, the woman was recovering well from the operation — one of the few of its kind ever performed in the world. The Haifa woman was rushed a month ago to the Tel Hashomer Hospital for a transplant, but the lung was regarded as much too big. When a large man died and his family agreed to donate his organs, the woman was called again to Sheba. Doctors didn't want to send the woman home again, so the team decided to remove the lower lobe and sculpted the upper lobe to suit the recipient. *Judy Siegel*

S. Lebanese schoolchildren plant trees

Scores of youngsters from the security zone in south Lebanon took part in a Tu B'Shvat tree planting ceremony at a school in Hatzor in Upper Galilee yesterday alongside local schoolchildren. The Lebanese youngsters brought cedar saplings to plant in Israel, in a symbolic gesture of hope for peace between the two countries. The ceremony was attended by senior IDF officers, including Brig.-Gen. Eli Amitai, head of the IDF's Lebanese Liaison Unit and South Lebanese Army commander Gen. Antoine Lahad, as well as senior SLA officers and soldiers. *David Rudge*

Ben-Ami joins race for Labor leadership

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MK Shlomo Ben-Ami announced yesterday that he has decided to run for the Labor leadership.

Ben-Ami's joining the race brings the number of contenders to four: Ehud Barak, Yossi Beilin and Ephraim Sneh.

Ben-Ami said yesterday that he was elected by 100,000 voters in Labor's primaries, reaching slot 15 on the national list, although he was placed 34th on the final list. He said that he had built a broad support base throughout the country in the past two-and-a-half years "not from a ruling position and without any political or party backing."

Ben-Ami, who held a rally in Beit Sokolov, said now that the government has managed to bring about the Hebron agreement, the differences between the two major parties has narrowed considerably on security and foreign affairs. Therefore, the national agenda of the future will focus on social and economic issues, and on the purity and integrity of government and ruling coalition.

He said Labor must concentrate on these issues, which will determine the face of Israeli society, noting that while the right-wing ideology has collapsed, the Right has taken the soul of Labor, leaving it with no alternative of its own.

THE ECONOMIC FORUM

Forum on Business and Economy at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel
in conjunction with the
Jerusalem Business Center
BANK HAPORALIM

The Influence of Economic Policy on Development in Israel and Jerusalem

Seminar and Gala Dinner
with the participation of
Governor of the Bank of Israel, Prof. Jacob Frenkel
Mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert MK

Sunday, February 9, 1997, at 6:30 p.m.
Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem, 47 King George St., Jerusalem
Moderator: Gad Lior, Head of the Jerusalem Bureau, Yediot Aharonot

Honorary Executive Committee (in alphabetical order):
Uzi Baram MK, Ambassador Eliyahu Ben-Elissar, Yoram Belizovsky, Naomi Blumenthal MK, Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg, Ran Cohen MK, Moshe Dovrat, Ra'anan Dinur, Ya'acov Elrati, Lou Gelerter, Avi Golan, Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Yonatan Harpaz, Ciemence Hasid, Dalia Itzik MK, Yehuda Levy, Gad Lior, Amos Mar Haim, Minister Yehoshua Matza, Eli Mizrahi, Eli Moyal, Meir Nitzan, Mayor Ehud Olmert MK, Yosef Pearlman, Ofer Pines MK, Adv. Yehuda Raveh, Adv. Yosef Richter, Uri Scharf, Prof. Aryeh Shafir, Silvan Shalom, MK, Adv. Yossi Shapira, Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Avraham Shochat MK, Izi Tapuhi, Matti Tal, Uzi Wechsler, Sami Weizman, Accountant Avi Yehudaot, Mordechai Yona, Moshe Zigdon, Emanuel Zissman MK

Chairman Israel Isaacs	Legal Advisors Adv. Ze'ev Weil Adv. Yitzhak Mina	Advisor for Planning and Land Development Adv. Tamar Raveh	Accountant Matti Ganor
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The seminar is intended for:
Entrepreneurs, company presidents and directors, council and board members, director generals, tourism and airline companies, travel agencies, urban planners, lawyers, industrialists, deputy director generals, financial managers, architects, economists, engineers, accountants, land assessors, investment advisers, contractors, advertising agents, marketing consultants, owners of investment companies, professionals and key figures in the economy.

Those intending to participate in the Forum are requested to fill out the following form:

To: The Economic Forum, I plan to attend the dinner on Sunday, February 9, 1997 at 6:30 p.m.
Registration fee - Forum members - NIS 120; guests - NIS 200.

Name _____ Place of work _____ Position _____
Address _____
Home address _____ Tel. (h) _____ Fax _____
Tel. (w) _____
Enclosed is my check payable to The Economic Forum Only, 2 Shmuel Hanagid, Jerusalem 94592, POB 1369, Tel. 02-244789, Fax. 02-246888
I will pay by credit card - ☐ American Express ☐ Isracard ☐ Diners ☐ Visa
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Peru terrorists free hostage

At least two policemen were injured in the melee, which broke out as a delegation of the

when two investment schemes failed to pay out on schedule. Hundreds of thousands of Albania's 3.2 million people put their savings

Police returned behind two water cannons. One man, apparently a plainclothes policeman in a black leather jacket, fired in the air repeatedly. The crowd broke into several smaller groups on the fringes of the giant square.

International Committee of the Red Cross representative Michel Minnig said the rebels agreed to free Rodriguez on medical grounds. He did not say what was wrong with him.

Rodriguez was the first hostage to be freed since January 17. His release followed a day of tense posturing, with rebels firing warning shots into the air in response to what they called provocative movements by the police outside.

"What we need is a period with not much talking but time for everyone to reflect," he said at a news conference after a two-hour meeting with government negotiator Domingo Palermo.

Chechens vote

Probe 3 in Olympic bombing

notice that Dixon received led political columnist Ruth Montgomery to write a book, *A Gift of Prophecy: The Phenomenal Jeane Dixon*, that recounted hundreds of accurate predictions made over the years.

In Moscow, deputy foreign minister Viktor Posuvalyuk said Russia was ready to break off relations with any country which granted Chechnya diplomatic recognition.

SPOKANE, Washington (AP)—Three men charged with robbing banks and pipe-bombing a newspaper office and abortion clinic are being investigated in the Olympic Park bombing in Atlanta, *The Spokesman-Review* here reported yesterday.

Gideon Naftali, former Chief Psychologist of Israel's security establishment, and HR professor Moshe Banai, will reveal the most sophisticated practices of the interview procedure. This seminar is conducted in Hebrew.

Managing International Teams

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Figure 6

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• **Prevalence** = the proportion of a population that has a disease at a particular point in time

MOVIE REVIEW

She's not the one

Trendy yuppies make for bland cinema



In 'She's the One,' (from left) Edward Burns, Maxine Bahns, Cameron Diaz, Jennifer Aniston and Mike McGlone spend a lot of time discussing their relationships.

By ADINA HOFFMAN

She's the One is the second film by the young writer/director/actor Edward Burns, whose first movie, *The Brothers McMullen*, landed the Grand Jury Prize at the 1995 Sundance festival as well as a spot in the dubious annals of box office history.

Shot for a minuscule \$25,000, that film — a romantic comedy about the perennial reluctance to commit-to-a-relationship of three Irish-American siblings on Long Island — grossed over \$14 million worldwide, making it the most profitable picture of the year (the ratio of production cost to earnings is what matters here) and winning Burns the chance to write and direct again, this time with the

help of \$6 million from Twentieth Century Fox's "specialty" division.

A bigger budget has certainly allowed Burns to polish his technique. This time around, he's able to afford a professional cinematographer and editor, as well as several experienced actors, including Jennifer Aniston, John (Frasier) Mahoney, and Cameron Diaz. (*The Mask*) Diaz, Someone, perhaps the producers, appears to have lent a hand in jazzing up the narrative here and there, and extra money has been poured into manicures, outfits and hair frostings for the female stars. Tom Petty was even called in to compose songs for the movie, and, as the production notes point out, paid caterers replaced Burns's mother's bag lunches on location.

The total effect of these changes,

SHE'S THE ONE

★★

Written and directed by Edward Burns. Hebrew title: *Ha'ahat vehayekha*, 96 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested. With Jennifer Aniston, Maxine Bahns, Edward Burns, Cameron Diaz, John Mahoney and Mike McGlone.

alas, is piddling. *She's the One* is basically a slicked-up *The Brothers McMullen* — more good, clean, boring fun — with characters (the brothers Fitzpatrick and their wives, played by *McMullen* alumni Burns, Mike McGlone and Maxine Bahns, and Aniston) who are a few years older than those in the first film but who have the

same narrow fixations and "issue"-conscious way of expressing themselves. And Burns's new movie doesn't even have the sweet garage-band scrappiness of his first attempt to compensate for its chronic anemia. It's another TV-fed lifestyle-movie about attractive young people who have moved beyond the uncertainty of extended adolescence to the uncertainty of marriage.

For a film that purports to be casual and hip to the cadences of actual, daily life, *She's the One* is remarkably rigid in terms of the details it lets in and doesn't. Burns's people seem to rise each morning just raring to start the next round of awkwardly scripted negotiations about relationships, commitment and future plans. (The only relief from the endless, stilted getting-in-touch comes in

the form of Mahoney's character, the brothers' father, whose cranky dialogue and delivery are by far the liveliest thing in the film.)

Some critics have likened Burns's romantic singlemindedness, along with the first-hand use of his own working-class Irish roots, to Woody Allen's compulsive New York Jewishness. Although the comparison is wobbly to begin with (it overlooks the rather glaring fact that Allen is funny and Burns is not), it's possible to bend over backwards and note the thread that links Burns's tastelessly empty relationship-films and the later, gentrified Allen of *Hannah and Her Sisters* and *Alice*. But as a director in his late twenties, Burns is a bit young to be settling for mild respectability and an artistic pension plan. One wishes him a *Sleeper* or a *Bananas*.



The Schidlöf Quartet, featuring Ofir Falk (bottom right)

A tale from the Vienna woods

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Seven years ago a young Israeli violinist left home to pursue his music studies in Vienna. It was a most beneficial experience for me and most of the time it was enjoyable," says Ofir Falk, a graduate of the Thelma Yellin high school. "And no, I did not feel any antisemitism whatsoever in the city."

In 1994 Falk was invited to become a founding member of a new quartet in England. Named the Schidlöf Quartet, after one of the legendary late members of the Amadeus Quartet, this new string foursome features musicians from England, Israel and the former Soviet Union.

"The story of its birth is quite

extraordinary," explains Falk.

"Both the father of violinist Graham Oppenheimer and violinist Rafael Todes are family-tree freaks and when they discovered that each actually has a musician son, they wanted them to get together and play together. Apparently Graham and Rafael are fifth cousins removed, but none was too eager to establish a new musical connection, at least not initially."

Oppenheimer decided that he wanted to play in a quartet and he contacted Todes. The two approached Israeli violinist Hagai Shoham, who was too busy to join them and suggested Falk instead. "Then Rafi brought the Ukrainian cellist Oleg Kogan and the Schidlöf Quartet was born." Today the quartet plays all over

the world, and teaches too.

Last summer Falk performed a few local concerts, and he promises to return. "Israel is my home. I do hope that in the future the quartet will have a more prominent presence here."

The Schidlöf Quartet has already been playing several concerts throughout the country in the past week. Their current tour continues tomorrow at the Tel Aviv Museum, playing the Schubert string quintet with Israeli cellist Hillel Tzori. On Friday they play in Tefen, on Saturday in Haifa and next Monday the tour comes to its end with a performance within the Etnahta series in Jerusalem, a concert which is broadcast live on the Voice of Music radio network.

Hassidic beat set to make jazz world swing

By JON KALISH

Can an Orthodox Jewish bluegrass musician from Brooklyn set the jazz world ablaze with centuries-old Hassidic melodies? Andy Statman sure hopes so.

Along with his fame playing bluegrass on the mandolin, the 46-year-old musician is known as a clarinet virtuoso who plays soulful Klezmer music, but he is seeking to establish himself in the mainstream jazz world as well. Since last summer, he has been playing with three accomplished jazz musicians.

Now billed as the Andy Statman Quartet, they have just released an album of Hassidic melodies played in a jazz vein for the Schanachie label titled *Between Heaven and Earth: Music of the Jewish Mystics*.

"Everything is improvised," Statman said of the Hassidic jazz repertoire.

"What we're trying to do is bring out the intent and feeling of the melody," Statman worships with a Hassidic congregation

known as Moditz that has a proud tradition of composing beautiful melodies.

Dovid Sears, a Brooklyn Hassid who was a jazz musician in another life, has been Statman's guide to the world of Hassidic music and shepherded the members of Statman's quartet to Hassidic functions in Brooklyn. Sears sees the marriage of Hassidic music to jazz as a natural one.

"The common denominator of all this music is that it's very emotionally charged. It's not coming from the frontal lobes so much as the heart," he said.

The new CD has impressed Jim Macnoe, the jazz editor of *Billboard* magazine who called it "a fine example of empathetic jazz improvisation."

But Statman is not totally abandoning his Klezmer and bluegrass projects. Coming up later in the year are a second Klezmer tour with violinist Itzhak Perlman and the release of a long-awaited *A Shabbos in Nashville* CD in which Statman plays bluegrass renditions of Sabbath songs.

(Reuter)

A tenor's food for the soul

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

When he was a young boy Vincenzo La Scola wanted to be a waiter. "I liked the way they dressed, with the black tuxedos and the bow ties."

These days La Scola is indeed wearing the same attire quite regularly. But the food he serves up is for the soul.

La Scola, one of the leading tenors of our generation and a regular visitor to all the leading opera houses around the world, is no stranger to local music either. He has already appeared several times with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and next week he returns to Tel Aviv to sing a role he has performed quite a few times — the poor poet Rodolfo in Puccini's most beloved and timeless tragic love story, *La Boheme*.

And Rodolfo is a character La Scola can very easily identify with. Two decades ago the young Italian singer lived for six months in the church at Modena.

It was just after he decided to leave home and try his luck studying voice in Palermo in order to make his singing dream a reality and, like many emerging artists, his career began in utter poverty.

"I was young and poor and I easily identified with all these bohemians who spent their lives in shabby attics. Suddenly I realized who Rodolfo really is," he says.

Being an Italian tenor today, says La Scola, is quite an undertaking and an enormous responsibility.

"Everyone expects something special from an Italian tenor. But this is exactly what makes it so exciting. I love music in general and opera in particular and I simply revel in singing on stage. And this means that my work is more a pleasure and much less a business."

La Scola was bit by the opera bug as a young child at home. "My father has a nice tenor voice and he was singing at home all the time. I had a very normal childhood. I played guitar and then in school I studied flute."

"Music was always part of my life but opera really entered only when I was 19 when I heard Luciano Pavarotti sing 'Di Quella Pira' from Verdi's *Il Trovatore*."

"Suddenly I found myself singing with him and actually discovering that I do have a voice."

La Scola, 38, believes that in five years' time his tenor voice will reach its apex. That will also be the time in which he will widen his repertoire.

"I am first and foremost an Italian tenor and I sing the basic Italian repertoire of Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi and Puccini." French repertoire and some Wagner might be added in the not so distant future as well.

Vincenzo La Scola sings in *La Boheme* (in concert form) with the IPO under the baton of Giuseppe Sinopoli next week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv.

NEWS

of the muse

A golden 'Collection'

The Collection, a four-disc set of 60 Israeli song favorites, has hit gold in a mere five months. That's 20,000 sets at NIS 192 each. The discs feature soft rock, nostalgia, Mediterranean music and romantic ballads. The performers include Shlomo Artzi, Rita, Mashina, the Friends of Natasha, the late Zohar Argov, Boaz Sharabi and Aviv Gefen. Eight record companies contributed to *The Collection*, a first for Israel, which was issued by Media Direct.

Helen Kaye

Stuffed shirts from London

After six years on London's West End, and still showing, *Don't Dress for Dinner* — Robin Hawdon's adaptation of Mark Camoletti's hit farce *Pyjama pour Six* (which ran in Paris for two years) — is coming to Israel on February 20 for seven performances.

Set on a converted farm, it's all about what happens when a couple entertains each other's lovers. The Israeli tour stars Neil France, who starred in another long-running comedy, *No Sex Please, We're British*. The shows will be in Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Kfar Sava and Netanya.

Helen Kaye

Hammer's corporate culture

Education and Sports Minister Zevulun Hammer has enlisted the Alma (Businesses for the Arts) organization to help get more corporate sponsorship for the arts. How? Another committee, this one headed by Arts and Culture Authority head Dr. David Alexander. Hammer wants recommendations on subjects such as the creation of a program to encourage government-aided corporate arts sponsorship as well as rules and regulations for such a program.

Helen Kaye



'Don't Dress for Dinner'



Zevulun Hammer

Angel feet

Dancer/choreographer Rina Schenfeld is breaking new ground. She has two new dances coming up and one of them, *The Angel Comes at Night*, is set to her own poems.

The other, *Haniya*, features a collage of women's dances from many cultures. Both dances, says Schenfeld, explore what it means to be a woman. The eight-member Rina Schenfeld Dance Theater will perform at The Suzanne Dellal Dance Center.

Helen Kaye

Silly awards in Hollywood

With only a few weeks to go to the Oscars, the silly season of lists in Hollywood is upon us — one has been compiled for Best Hair and another for Best Legs. Heading the list for best female hair is Michelle Pfeiffer, the thirtysomething actress who reportedly turned down the title role in *Evita* so that she could spend more time with her family. The guy with the best hair is all-American star Tom Cruise.

Best female legs go to 58-year-old singer Tina Turner, and best male legs to Belgian-born musician Jean-Claude Van Damme. Van Damme recently compared himself to another guy with great legs, by claiming he was "the Fred Astaire of karate."

Tom Gross



Michelle Pfeiffer

Beatlemania returns, in Tokyo

The first international auction devoted entirely to Beatles memorabilia will take place in Tokyo on March 22. The auction, expected to fetch more than £1 million (\$1.6 million), will include a Hofner guitar once owned by Paul McCartney and his hand-written lyrics for the song "Penny Lane."

Bonhams said the sale would be beamed to an expected 25 million households in Britain and other European countries via the new British-based Auction Channel cable television company. McCartney, who was knighted last month, hit out recently at memorabilia hunters.

"To show how ridiculous this whole memorabilia market has become, there is currently someone in the USA who owns my own birth certificate. How people can feel that that is right is beyond my comprehension," he said.

Reuter

SEE IT IN HEBREW- HEAR IT IN ENGLISH!

COMEDY OF ERRORS

January 28, at 8:30 p.m.

The smash-hit production of Shakespeare's classic comedy set amidst a modern war-torn Middle Eastern city with dazzling stage effects that include drums, gunshots, torch lights and even belly dancing.

TWELFTH NIGHT

February 4, at 8:30 p.m.

A new production of Shakespeare's amorous comedy — a hysterical love triangle between a man, woman and teenage boy.

SHINDALE

Monday, February 10 at 8:30 p.m.

1 Daniel Frisch Street at the corner of Ibn Gvirol Set in the ultra-orthodox Mea Shearim society, this melodrama portrays one woman's rebellion against her community, when the rabbis allow her husband a divorce without her consent, due to her barrenness.

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Heads in the sand

SINCE the start of Ramadan on January 10, terrorist attacks have killed more than 250 people and wounded 500 in Algeria. As many as 100,000 people are estimated to have died since the country's civil war began in 1991. Only Bosnia and Rwanda have a worse record over the past five years and they at least have some solutions in sight.

The facts and figures provide gruesome evidence that the greatest enemy of the Moslem Arab people are Moslem fundamentalist terrorists. A cursory scan of the Arabic-language press or radio would reveal however that the greatest threat to the Arab people is a small and solitary democracy, Israel. There is nothing more depressing to observe than the failure of the rulers and people of the Arab states to come to grips with the giant serpent that is grinding away at the foundations of their existence. And its name is not Israel, but Islam itself.

It is fortunate there is so much sand in the Middle East, because there are so many heads that want to bury themselves in it. The latest candidate is no less than the president of strife-ridden Algeria. His long silence during the mounting carnage since the start of the Moslem holy month shocked even the dulled senses of his terrified people. Belatedly stirred by last week's horrific car bomb in central Algiers and the barbaric murders of scores of villagers by throat-cutting, President Liamine Zeroual finally went on television on Friday night. His empty words caused even more outrage than his silence.

He stated the obvious — that "innocent citizens of all categories are victims each day of a blind terrorism unequalled in any other place or time." But Zeroual spoke mainly in the flowery and dubious euphemisms beloved of Arab leaders. Having failed to name the perpetrators of the appalling terrorism, it was hardly surprising he failed to shoulder any government responsibility for the country's five-year slide into brutality. He settled instead for fixing the blame on the second great standby of the Arab statesman after Israel — the "foreign conspiracy" by unnamed aliens and mercenaries.

Algeria's opposition leader and veteran of its war for independence, Hocin Ait Ahmed said he was "truly appalled," and not without justification. After five years of war and 100,000 lost lives, General Zeroual — the man elected to be responsible for government and security — broke his month-long silence to announce he had discovered an international conspiracy.

Zeroual's attitude is typical of the so-called fight against Islamic fundamentalism throughout the Middle East. Shaky regimes first pretend it doesn't exist, then they attempt to appease it by tightening up Islamic codes of public behavior, then they resort to diversionary "burning issues" — recently Hebron or Jerusalem.

Finally, when it all blows up in their faces and foreign tourists are slaughtered or the country slithers into civil war, out comes the "international conspiracy" theory.

Algeria is now the most important battleground between secular rights and religious

fanaticism since the fanatics won in Iran in 1979. The battle is being lost by the Zeroual government's gross negligence and incompetence. It has been obvious for years that neither side is going to win an armed conflict — the real losers are Algerians being murdered in their thousands. Zeroual has committed the classic blunder of crisis leadership — being harsh and paranoid when he should be reasonable, and being ineffectual — or even invisible — when he should be firm.

The Algerian opposition, such as that led by Ait Ahmed, has long advocated a political approach and the less wild leaders of the Islamic front have expressed willingness to negotiate. Most alarmingly, the government has branded the peace camp as traitor.

Zeroual's whining weekend speech contained a broad hint that those advocating dialogue are part of the mysterious "foreign conspiracy" — presumably because many opposition leaders have fled to France.

The bloody civil war started as a political dispute born of political blunders all round — the government failed to exclude the fundamentalists from the 1991 elections, the people foolishly invested their protest votes in the Islamists, and the government compounded both acts of foolishness with a third, they annulled the election.

The war can only be ended by returning it to the arena of political dispute, where hopefully it might be converted eventually to political discourse.

Like many populist ideologies in history, Islamic fundamentalism has fed on the sins of those who already govern most of the Arab world.

Democracies have a hard enough time guaranteeing their people work, health, education, justice, and the freedom to pursue happiness.

Rulers who offer people a subsistence diet of bread and circuses while themselves enjoying cake and palaces have no chance at all.

But these remain the first to lecture foreigners on their "false assumptions" about Islam. And thanks to the failures of governments like Algeria, Islamic fundamentalism introduces the threat of terrorism to even those liberal democracies, such as France and Britain, that not only allow mosques to be built in their Judeo-Christian cultures, but actively encourage ethnic diversity as a cultural asset.

There may be "false assumptions" abroad about Islam but many mosques and Islamic welfare organizations in Europe and the United States have become Trojan horses filled with hateful, spiteful, dangerous extremists. They have become centers for fund-raising and propaganda, safe houses for terrorists, and networks of support for those on the run. For Zeroual now to blame "foreigners" for what his government has allowed to happen to his own country is to add insult to the injuries of victims of fundamentalist terrorism in France and elsewhere. If not so tragic, it would be laughable; it is instead merely despicable.

Way out of line

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

I am not fan of this government. It is a right-wing regime with two left hands and two left feet, and about a quarter of its members would like nothing better than to turn this country into a theocratic state — i.e. to force me and my like to live under a system of law which, in many respects, contradicts what we believe in. Despite this, I find the attitude

ists who never miss a chance to insult Dore Gold, the prime minister's adviser and confidant, by questioning the level of his academic work. Why? Because he wears a knitted kippa and isn't a left-winger.

Gold might be one of Israel's most outstanding scholars, but he is a capable man with a solid body of academic work to his credit.

Compared to another academic, the erratic and highly controversial Haim Asa, who served prime minister Rabin in the same capacity, Gold is the very incarnation of soberness, discretion and decency. And yet no one has ever dared to write about Asa with the disrespect that seems to have been reserved for Gold.

Back in 1992, when I was preparing the second edition of my *Political Dictionary of the State of Israel* in English, I asked Gold whether he would update the entry on US-Israel relations, which is his field of expertise. He declined, citing lack of time. But he did sit with me for several hours, giving me a chronological review of the subject, which I recorded.

Excepting one minor error in a date, his presentation was immaculate. Moreover, no one listening could have detected the speaker's political leaning.

BY FAR the most disturbing phenomenon, however, is the malicious joy that has bubbled up in the wake of the revelations by TV Channel 1 reporter Ayala Hasson regarding the appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney-general.

At this stage it isn't clear whether we are looking at a case of major government corruption, minor misconduct by a government employee — or simply at an ambitious reporter going out on a limb.

Whatever happened to fair and honest TV coverage?

of much of the media toward the government and the religious sector highly disturbing.

Take that McDonald's ad on TV's Channel 2.

Now cheeseburgers happen to be my favorite junk food. Yet whenever that burger, with its blatant mixing of milk and meat, comes on I feel uncomfortable, because I know it offends at least half the population, including many of my friends.

McDonald's Israel managing-director Omri Padan told *Yedioth Aharonot* last Friday that he has made it a matter of principle to show the religious establishment (those "Khomeinists") that it can't tell him what to do. And no one has the right to try and stop him feeling that way.

It is Channel 2 that is at fault here. It would never show an ad its secular viewers found offensive — one that implies, for example, that all young people who wear an earring are drifters and drug addicts.

So why offend those who observe *kashrut*? Then there are several journal-

A very pernicious process

SHIMUEL KATZ

In November 1936, months after Adolf Hitler made his first moves toward the subjugation of Europe, British prime minister Stanley Baldwin made a historic confession to parliament. Fellow conservative Winston Churchill had attacked him for failing "to keep his pledge to ensure Britain's air power," an obvious cause of Britain's famous state of unpreparedness.

Baldwin did not deny his culpability. He explained that, prior to the general election, he had found that the dominant mood in the country was very pacifistic. Consequently, he declared, "I asked myself what chance was there that the country would give a mandate for rearmament. Supposing I had gone to the country and said that Germany was rearming and that we must rearm, does anybody think that this pacific democracy would have rallied to that cry at that moment?"

"I cannot think of anything," Baldwin concluded, "that would have made loss of the election from my point of view more certain."

This indeed, writes Churchill in his memoirs, was "appalling frankness. That a prime minister should avow that he had not done his duty in regard to national safety because he was afraid of losing the election was an incident without parallel in our parliamentary history."

So the conservative party won that election; and Neville Chamberlain, Baldwin's successor as conservative leader, led Britain into the appeasement of Hitler, into Munich, and into World War II.

And so Binyamin Netanyahu in 1996 won an election he would surely have lost had he told the people what he was going to do as prime minister.

The majority that voted Netanyahu into power was moved by the deep-seated belief that the "peace process" was a transparent confidence trick, a process which, if consummated, would lead to an Arab-Israeli war, with Israel reduced to a state of utmost vulnerability.

They refused to ignore the frank, indeed vehement, declarations by Yasser Arafat and other Arab leaders that the national objective — enshrined moreover "in the Palestinian National Covenant" — was the destruction of the Jewish state and the concomitant dispersal of its Jewish inhabitants.

They believed that the conflict with the Arabs was not over border modifications but over possession of the Land of Israel; that surrenders of territory not only weakened Israel strategically but increased the Arabs' confidence that, this time, they would win the war they were planning.

Only someone with a death wish would negotiate his own suicide

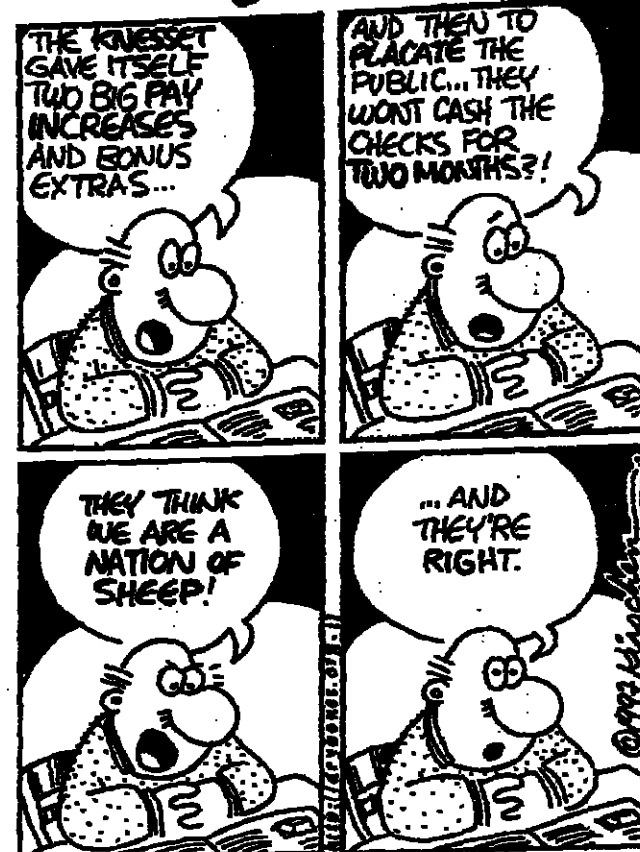
Netanyahu's voters refused to ignore the massive armaments undeniably piling up in all the neighboring Arab countries.

No less strong was a widely shared sense of the need to overcome the defeatism that had become a hallmark of Israeli government policy; and of the need to stem the grinding down of the moral fiber of a segment of the Jewish population.

In that segment it has become a commonplace that "if we do anything Arafat doesn't like and to which he may respond with terrorism, we must refrain from doing it; we must give in, give up, withdraw, or at least postpone, and wait for the 'right time.'"

For all this, and more, Binyamin Netanyahu was voted into power. Symbolically, his first political "act" was to prevent MK Avigdor Kahalani from renewing in the Knesset the resolution for a mandatory requirement of a special majority for ceding national territory. (That proposal, designed primarily to secure the Golan, was unquestionably supported by an overwhelming majority of the nation, but was defeated by the previous government's mobilizing

Dry Bones



Whatever the truth, it's hard to avoid the feeling that had we been dealing with a left-wing government, the story would have been handled with far greater care and discretion.

So far we haven't had a shred of concrete evidence to back up Hasson's allegation of dubious dealing involving Arye Deri and others in the Bar-On appointment; and yet her colleagues are acting as if its veracity was above doubt, and implying that the government's spokesmen are all liars, or worse.

They might be, in which case several highly-placed heads will roll; then again, they might not.

While the government's decision-making process is quite clearly not what it should be, the Israel Broadcasting Authority has

a habit of treating the government as guilty until proven innocent.

Nobody expects a national broadcasting service in a democracy to defend the government when it doesn't deserve defending, or to leave wrongdoing uncovered.

But there is something very amiss when it displays such an inbuilt bias against a democratically elected government — a government which might not be to the liking of lefties such as myself, but which is owed a fair and honest hearing.

Even if Hasson's story checks out, Channel 1 especially has some serious soul-searching to do.

The writer is a political scientist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SAFER BLOOD PRODUCTS

Sir, — The suggestion (*Post*, January 1) that blood donors of Libyan and Tunisian origin should undergo a test to determine whether they are carriers of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) before donating blood is only one facet of a developing health drama of new viral and prion diseases transmitted to man.

Although individual blood donations are well documented and the recipients can be easily traced for follow-up, the manufacture of blood-derived products, e.g. gamma-globulin and serum albumin, involves pooling multiple blood donations which, after processing, may be distributed internationally to thousands of patients.

Every label carries a code number which enables unused bottles of a suspect batch to be withdrawn if a manufacturing defect or a quality-control failure is found after marketing. Identification of patients who received a dose of a recalled batch is almost impossible.

My colleagues and I have recently suggested (*Pharmaceutical Journal*, October 26) that all manufactured blood products should be kept. A long list of mishaps and fraud perpetrated by profit-hungry foreign processing firms would indicate the importance of tracing any patient who received a blood-derived product.

The barring of ethnic groups who may be unwitting carriers of transmissible viral or prion diseases must be part of the requirement for safer drugs. Replacement by products produced by genetic engineering or synthesis would seem to be an international research priority.

DR. JOHN JACOBS
Jerusalem.

ACT WITH SEVERITY

Sir, — The prime minister has said (*Post*, January 10) that if turns out that the blasts at the old Tel Aviv Bus Station were the work of terrorists, and that they operated out of the Palestinian Authority territory, then Israel "will act with severity."

Israel can, and should, already start acting with severity, without waiting for the outcome of the investigation of the bus-station blast. Very recently, Etna and Ephraim Tzur were murdered by Arab terrorists and every day incendiary bombs are thrown at cars on the roads and at Jewish homes in Hebron. The terrorists who committed these murders and attempted murders have acted and continue to act from Palestinian Authority territory.

There is therefore no justification for delaying the severe reaction which Mr. Netanyahu threatens.

BEN SHUA
Jerusalem.

CNN-WATCH

Sir, — I am writing to you on behalf of a group of retirees with time on their hands who are more than concerned about the way in which Israel is being treated by CNN, which is now a widely viewed network throughout Israel. We have decided to do something and form CNN-Watch, which will monitor unbalanced coverage on CNN and report it back to CNN sponsors and CNN corporate directors.

If anyone sees any discrepancy in CNN coverage, please fax us at (03) 695-0132, or write to us at POB 18213, Tel Aviv. We would also welcome foundation support to open up a modest office.

ABE WEINBERGER
Tel Aviv.

URI AVNERY

Sir, — I refer to Trudy Gefen's letter of January 12 in which she describes Uri Avnery as "a journalist whose political views are further left than those of Pol Pot." In my view, this description is tantamount to blood libel.

Pol Pot, as it is well known, had thousands of people killed in the name of his ideology. Uri Avnery, undoubtedly a far-left activist, has never called for any violent action against those who oppose his ideology. On the contrary, his meetings with Palestinian leaders have served to remove Israel and its neighbors from the cycle of violence they have been in since the inception of Zionism.

RAZ JOSEPH
Beersheba.

CLUMSY APPROACH

Sir, — The *Post* of January 7 reports findings from a Geshet Institute survey which reveal that secular Jews dislike religious Jews more than the reverse. A representative from Geshet concludes that religious Jews had better take stock and find out what about themselves "makes" secular Jews dislike them.

This is like asking Jews in general to look at their behavior to see what causes antisemitism. Students of basic psychology know that we can't "make" anyone feel anything.

I would propose that secular Jews examine what exactly it is that they find so threatening about religious Jews and a Jewish Israel, further, if Geshet's goal is to promote goodwill between the religious and secular population, they certainly go about it clumsily. It doesn't engender a positive atmosphere to automatically place responsibility for the rift in Israeli society on one segment more than the other.

ASHOSHANA WEINSTEIN
Kfar Adumim.

POSTSCRIPTS

IN A RICH city more often plagued by gold, jewelry and bank heists, robbers have found a novel precious commodity to rob — chicken wings.

Robbers boarded a container barge, tied up the watchman and escaped with five containers full of imported frozen chicken wings worth HK\$2.5 million (\$323,400).

Poultry — especially chicken wings and feet — is a commodity in hot demand with Chinese consumers. Vast quantities are imported for Hong Kong and China dining tables.

China is the second largest market for US poultry products after Russia, and is the only market for chicken feet.

A CANADIAN couple presumed to have died in a plane crash were found alive almost by chance on a nearby beach.

Brian and Sheila Johnson were piloting a light plane on the remote west coast of Vancouver Island when they crashed into a lake. Rescue crews later found their identification floating among the wreckage and gave up the search, presuming they had died.

A Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer flew to the site at Gauthier Lake with a coroner and divers to compile a final report on the incident. As he circled his helicopter to take pictures of the crash site, he spotted the pair on a beach about two km away.

JOSEPH MERRICK, the disfigured "elephant man" whose story was told on stage and in film, did not suffer from the disease often named after him but from a different, very rare condition, it was reported in London.

Amrita Sharma, a radiologist at

the Royal London Hospital where Merrick's skeletal remains have been kept since his death in 1890, said in a report that the likely cause of his condition was Proteus Syndrome, a rare non-inherited condition. She said she based her conclusion on radiograph and computed tomographic studies of the skeleton.

It had been widely assumed Merrick suffered from neurofibromatosis — sometimes called "elephant man disease" — a genetic disorder of the nervous system that causes abnormal tissue growth.

The extremely rare Proteus Syndrome is a malfunction in cell growth that causes hypergrowth of bone and tissues in the body. Fewer than 100 cases of the incurable disease have been reported worldwide and it was first identified only about two decades ago, Sharma said.

Merrick was born in 1862 and began an abnormal growth pattern at the age of 21 months. His head had a circumference of 91 cm, compared to about 61 cm for most men. His body was covered with large, fleshy growths that made him a societal outcast.

THIS WAS one fortuneteller who had another sort of fortune in mind.

Police arrested Antonella Mastropaolo, 34, of Monza, Italy, on charges of criminal association for helping a hold-up gang decide the most auspicious days for robberies.

Some 25 gang members had been arrested several months earlier. They enjoyed a run of luck that yielded about 11 billion lire (\$7 million) in 35 holdups. Police investigation led to Mastropaolo.

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Ideas & Trends



Chechens vote tomorrow after years of war and chaos. A Chechen soldier does a back flip off a Russian tank gun in Bamut last week.

Islam Gets the Law and Order Vote

By ALESSANDRA STANLEY

IN the hotly contested Chechen presidential campaign, the backdrop of every campaign poster is Islamic green. All the candidates fervently invoke Allah and Islam in their speeches. But what are they really appealing to? One candidate, Deputy Prime Minister Movladi Udugov, gives the clearest hint: His slogan is "Islamic Order" and it can be found plastered on almost every bullet-scarred wall and bombed-out building in Grozny.

Chechens, who are Muslim by faith and practical by nature, do not share the strict fundamentalism of Iran or Afghanistan. Under Communism, Islam was officially banned, although practiced quietly, as a form of defiance against Soviet colonialism.

But for many voters, who complain of rampant crime and disorder, the notion of *Islam as a path to order* has had extraordinary appeal in the campaign for tomorrow's election. Secessionist Chechnya has, after all, undergone years of brutal war followed by months of criminal rampages.

"Under Islamic laws, young people will be afraid," Malika Sugaipova, 36, said. "Whether they really pray, or just are more fearful, it will be better." She lives in a neighborhood where most apartment buildings are bullet scarred or bombed out, without running water. She and her neighbors live in fear of marauding criminals and robbers who stalk the area at night.

What appeals most is the draconian reputation of Islamic law — a body of teaching and legal practice generally known as Sharia. In its application, the details of Sharia vary widely from one Islamic land to another. No matter. Here the invocation of it as a slogan seems to be enough.

In September, the acting government led by President Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, one of several leading candidates, published a criminal code that it said was largely based on Sharia, which directly contradicts Russia's constitution. Among other things, the Chechen code bans alcohol and adultery. People found guilty of adultery are to be punished with 100 lashes. Adultery with a virgin is grounds for death by stoning.

In the first weeks, Chechen officials eagerly carried out show canings, holding public whippings of drunks and other offenders. Sharia is supposed to apply only to Muslims, but Carlotta Gall of The Moscow Times saw Chechen fighters soundly beating Russian civilians who had been caught drinking last fall. Such displays mostly petered out after negative reviews in the West.

Still, ever since Chechen rebel fighters



Chechen Muslims attend Friday prayers.

finally defeated Russian troops last August, Islam has been at the center of an emerging new Chechen identity. It is not all a matter of Sharia and order. Mr. Udugov, for example, boasts in his official election pamphlet that he has two wives and that his favorite hobby is "Islamic politics."

When the late Dzhokhar Dudayev first seized power in Chechnya and declared independence in 1991, he shrewdly used Islam to bolster national pride. When asked whether he was a practicing Muslim, Mr. Dudayev is said to have replied, "Of course, I pray three times a day." (The Koran calls



The New York Times

for believers to pray five times daily.)

But then the business of Islamizing this corner of the Caucasus, some 250 miles from Iran, took a more serious turn. Twenty-one months of brutal war with Russia, which cost tens of thousands of lives, radicalized the society. Chechens rediscovered a stricter Islam both as a solace in suffering and a rallying cry in war.

People who had never in their lives observed the holy month of Ramadan are now fasting. "This is the first time I ever fasted," Tabarek Dejetayeva, 40, explained with a sheepish smile. Her building was repeatedly shelled during the fighting. "The war made me aware of my mortality," she said.

Chechens say a completely Islamic state could not work for them because they have their own strong traditions and national identity. They cite as a prime example "Adat," a word for customary law that refers to the exacting rules of vendetta that have kept rival clans in line for centuries.

The few Westerners still in Chechnya after the murder of six Red Cross workers last month say they rely on the Chechen principle that any harm done to a guest under a Chechen's protection has to be punished in kind. "We have armored cars," said Tim Guldman, who runs the Grozny office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is monitoring the elections. "But the Chechen tradition of blood feuds is, to me, more reliable."

Not So Fast

All the candidates favor independence. All say Chechnya must become an Islamic state. But the campaign has shed some light on just how radical the Chechen version of Islamic rule is likely to be. The two leading candidates, Shamil Basayev and Aslan Maskhadov, have made it clear that they see Islam as a key part of the Chechen identity, but not as its raison d'être.

In the village of Stariye Atagi last week, Mr. Basayev, the rebel commander who led the murderous hostage raid on Budyonovsk in 1995, stood on the steps of a mosque and told the crowd: "Chechnya is not yet ready for Sharia. We must first educate our children and prepare our society for it."

His chief opponent, Mr. Maskhadov, who was also a war hero, said last week: "I will create a Chechen-Islamic state." His emphasis was on "Chechen."

For the dwindling number of ethnic Russians who remain in Chechnya, however, any heated talk of Islam is frightening. Since the war stopped, attacks on Russians have increased. "What does Islamic Order mean?" Galina Filipenko, 45, a Russian neighbor of Mrs. Sugaipova, said bitterly. "All that means is that we have to get out of here."

They Gave Millions (Mum's the Word)

By DAVID CAY JOHNSTON

TODAY, in a village in the Adirondack Mountains of New York, a young man with a modest job keeps a wonderful secret. He is his community's mystery benefactor, the source of unexpected charitable gifts that have made up for shortfalls in local fundraising drives.

"He lives like the other villagers," said a person familiar with the gift-giving arrangements that protect the man's identity. "No one around him has any idea that his family is worth tens of millions. He doesn't want his friends to look at him differently. He is learning, through this, about how to give wisely."

In an age when it seems that every millionaire who writes a sizable check wants his name carved in the side of a building, there are still those who do not want their charity to be publicized, or even disclosed to the beneficiaries.

This group of donors became a little less anonymous last week when a businessman from New Jersey, Charles F. Feeney, disclosed that he had secretly given away businesses worth \$3.5 billion, placing them in two charitable trusts that, in turn, have already distributed \$810 million to colleges, cultural institutions and other charities from Ireland to Oregon.

Mr. Feeney and his friend, Harvey P. Dale, a law professor at New York University who is an expert on offshore tax havens and philanthropy, worked together for 15 years to establish an organization with offices in New York and Bermuda



George Eastman

that veiled Mr. Feeney's identity.

The veil was lifted last week because Mr. Feeney had to disclose the charitable foundations in a lawsuit involving one of his companies, which runs duty-free shops in airports.

Mr. Feeney fits the mold for most anonymous donors: he did not set out to build a big fortune, he came from modest circumstances and he did not want his money to consume his life.

Maimonides, the 12th Century philosopher, taught that the highest form of giving was anonymous and selfless, and Mr. Dale said these teachings guided Mr. Feeney over the years as he contemplated how to cope with his fortune.

Although there is often a humble, spiritual element in keeping charities quiet, there is also a practical side: peace. After Mr. Feeney gave Cornell University, his alma mater, \$700,000 in 1981, he found that he was besieged with requests. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Dale created the arrangement that Mr. Feeney said allowed him to go about his life without constant pressure for donations.

Mr. Feeney was not alone. There is a leading Hollywood actor who, each December for the last 11 years, has placed \$100,000 into a fund with a generic name and then directed an intermediary to send checks to causes he favors.

Chester F. Carlson, who invented xerography, gave away \$300 million in the 1960's — the equivalent of a billion dollars today — with almost no public notice. The money went to historically black colleges, the



Charles F. Feeney

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions and to help poor people pay off their mortgages.

His daughter, Catherine Carlson, said that "One woman was so excited about having her mortgage bought that she told the newspaper about it and my mother was very upset." She added, "My mother asked him once if there was anything else in life he wanted and he said, 'Yes — to die a poor man.'"

George Eastman, the founder of Eastman Kodak, started out as a secret donor. Beginning in 1912, he gave \$20 million to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under the name Mr. Smith. In 1920, however, someone spotted his real name on a stock certificate and his cover was blown, prompting M.I.T. to reveal his identity before anyone else could, according to his biographer, Elizabeth Brayer. After that, Mr. Eastman was much more open about his benefactions.

At the New York Community Trust, which holds \$1.4 billion in 1,200 separate charitable funds, only two people have anonymous funds, but dozens of people give their funds generic names and about half of the gifts from those funds are made without citing the donor's name, said Ani Hurwitz, the trust's spokesperson.

The Rockefeller family sponsors the Philanthropic Collaboration, which gives about \$4 million in gifts annually from donors seeking minimal disclosure. "You could look at our annual report and tell that someone is a donor to the collaboration, but you could not tell where their money went," said Charles D. Terry, the Collaboration's president.

Anonymous giving has its place, but there are also good reasons for donors to seek recognition, said Waldemar Nielsen, author of "Inside American Philanthropy: The Dramas of Donorship" (University of Oklahoma Press, 1996).

"Some people avoid announcement of gifts so they won't be pestered by others for money," Mr. Nielsen said. "But being recognized is in no way reprehensible and can have a positive effect by encouraging others to give."



Chester F. Carlson

Down.

Continued From Page 1

ish "blackmail" and cabals, unsure what guilt, if any, to admit.

In the Swiss wake, Portugal and Sweden have also arrived in the historical dock. Their governments' apparent lack of interest in the source of the Nazi gold they received in exchange for sales to Germany of tungsten, wood, sardines and iron ore has been widely criticized. As in Switzerland, the suspicion has emerged that they profited from the Nazi conquest, and genocide, and that their neutrality was simply a cloak for complicity.

"Sweden was not neutral, Sweden was weak," said Arne Ruth, a Swedish journalist who has written a book on the Third Reich. "Its sales of iron ore made an important contribution to the German effort. It allowed German troops and weaponry through its territory to Norway. In 1943, its government told the central bank to ignore suspicions that German gold Sweden received was looted. What is interesting is that all these facts, more or less known for some time, are commanding such attention now."

There is no question that recently declassified documents, the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II in 1995, and unprecedented access to archives in Moscow and other ex-Communist states have all played a role in reopening discussion of the war and turning events of long ago into news.

But there seems to be more to the current debate than new documents alone can explain. The cold war, an

era of moral absolutism, has given way to an age in which even "good" states can be bad, or at least reveal their imperfections. An age where neutrality itself is necessarily relative.

"Before the fall of the Berlin Wall, we tended to imbue ourselves with a facile purity in the West," said André Glucksmann, a French philosopher. "We blamed the other and did not look too closely at ourselves. We glossed over the corner of neutrality in most people, the neutrality that is also the instinct to save one's skin."

Truth and Cynicism

The extent to which the "truth" about World War II was shaped by the often cynical political imperatives of the postwar years is now becoming clear. As the British historian Norman Davies has pointed out, the only war crimes deemed worth investigating in 1945 "were those committed by the defeated enemy."

There was, for example, no appetite to discover who killed 26,000 Allied Polish officers in the Katyn forests in 1941 because the Soviet Union, at war's end, was an ally. Later, the issue was simply buried in the Soviet sphere.

Similarly, Western attempts to probe who killed whom in Yugoslavia between 1941 and 1945 — and particularly the role of the Catholic church in quelling Croatia's genocidal drive against Serbs and Jews — were scarcely serious because they met political objections. To look too closely was to destabilize Yugoslavia; and to criticize the Catholic church was to play into the hands of

the Communists.

The truth, beside such calculations, was of little moment. Politics was paramount. The same is certainly true of Switzerland, Sweden and Portugal, states that all became part of the Western family after 1945. Portugal, still under its dictator Antonio Salazar, entered NATO. Switzerland and Sweden were lands of freedom and democracy. Pressing them on their war records was not a priority in the West.

Immediately after the war, the United States did attempt to press Portugal to surrender 44 tons of German gold by freezing its assets in the United States. But seven years later, with America anxious to get Portugal into NATO and secure an important strategic base in the Azores, the matter was dropped.

In Switzerland, as in Sweden, the facts of an uneven war record have been broadly known for some time. Switzerland let some Jewish refugees in, but it turned others away. It secured food and other supplies from Germany and Fascist Italy; its bankers did business with both. Especially in the later years of the war, it proved a valuable listening post for Allied intelligence services.

"The romantic idea of the Swiss citizen army standing between it and disaster in the war was always nonsense," said Arno J. Mayer, a professor of history at Princeton University. "Given the fact it borders Germany, it was natural for it to lean more toward the Axis powers. It is the new spirit of our times that has led to the current scrutiny."

That spirit has also been evident elsewhere. It is only

recently, in 1995, that France has fully acknowledged its responsibility in the deportation of Jews and only recently that the early Allied awareness of the Holocaust has become widely acknowledged. The truth, with its inevitable moral ambiguities, can now be told.

Part of this questioning spirit seems to have stemmed from the disasters that followed the cold war's end. The genocides in Bosnia and Rwanda posed — shockingly — a basic question: and what did you do?

Fewer Certainties

Faced by this question, the old, neat certainties about history, about who was good and who evil, who upstanding and who a coward, have tended to fall away. The fact is that the "neutral" in any war or crisis — those, that is, who rest immobile or are borne along with the tide — are far more numerous than the outright heroes or the outright villains.

What has also become very clear in recent years is the importance of light being shed on history. Yugoslavia's destruction, in many ways, was an old war refought. The obfuscations of Swiss banks and the Swiss Government, the shredding of old documents and the retreat into inoperative appear to do no service to future generations of Swiss citizens.

Our vision of wartime "neutrality" was an illusion. But so, too, in some ways, was our vision of ourselves. The neutral countries were imperfect, but perhaps we were all less perfect than we believed.

Ideas & Trends

America's Latest Export: A Stressed-Out World

By RICHARD A. SHWEDER

A LONG with Coke, CNN and Visa, stress is rapidly spreading throughout the world. Or at least the word for it is.

In Tokyo, "stress" is enunciated in the midst of a stream of Japanese: "Shujin wa stress ga tamaru to okorippoku naru," a Japanese housewife complains to a friend. ("My husband becomes irritable when stress builds up.") On the streets of Moscow, the term suddenly pops up in the middle of this sentence: "V sostoyanii stress u menya vsyo valitsya iz ruk." ("In this state of stress I can't do anything right.") The English syllable is articulated by Hindi speakers in New Delhi, by Chinese speakers in Taiwan, by Spanish speakers in Seville. "Stress" seems to be on loan to most of the major languages of the world.

The history or epidemiology of the spread of the English word "stress" has yet to be documented, although it is a foreign entry — a borrowed term — in

word, "strictus," and ancient meanings like "afflict," "punish" and "pull asunder." Soon after World War II, though, the medical establishment began packaging a new concept of stress, the notion that the trials and tribulations of life trigger a physiological "stress response," resulting in measurable physical and mental illness. In 1950, Dr. Hans Selye, an outspoken physician also trained as an organic chemist, proposed that stress consists of physical changes in the endocrine system, including gastric ulceration and an overdevelopment of the adrenal cortex.

In later years, scientists championed other secretions and juices of the body (an increase in catecholamine, a fall in testosterone) as potential signs of a "stress syndrome." (In a similar enterprise, numerous English speaking pop psychologists have tried to translate the existentially laden words we once borrowed from Europe, "Angst," "ennui" and "Weltschmerz," into medical discourse.)

Unfortunately, there may be somewhat less to the medical image of a universal malignant "stress syndrome" than initially meets the eye. Some of the hormonal changes attributed to the "stress response" turn out to be associated with pleasant and health-promoting experiences as well, like sex and sports. And no one has yet traced or verified a true causal connection between secretions of catecholamine (or whatever) and actual human diseases of any kind.

The real rub, however, for the theory that "stress" is popular because it is a prevalent malady is that human beings are amazingly resilient. Only a small minority of those exposed to the fiery ordeals of life, like divorce or unemployment, develop a psychiatric disorder or become sick as a consequence. The most recent comprehensive review of stress, "The Effects of Stressful Life Events on Depression," published in the 1997 Annual Review of Psychology by Ronald Kessler of the Harvard Medical School, begins this way: "Despite ample theories of psychopathology and many associated empirical studies, it is uncertain whether stressful life events promote psychiatric disorders."

Fortunately, there is an alternative theory to explain the international embrace of "stress." The idea, popular among linguists and ironists, is that the word is exquisitely vague and elusive, unlike, say, "Angst," which points to the psyche or "Weltschmerz," which points to the world. When someone says, "I am stressed out," it isn't clear whether the source of suffering is inside or outside, subjective or objective, mental or physical. The cause of stress may be a harrowing event, a tormented mental state, a physiological impairment or just some chronic sense of cosmic uneasiness. No one knows.

Keep the Peace

Imprecise and evasive language may be a disaster for science but it is a boon in everyday life. "I am stressed out" is non-accusatory, apologetic and detached. It is a good way to keep the peace and, at the same time, a low-cost way to complain.

It was not so long ago in the history of the world that pronouncements of suffering were occasions for making accusations and assigning responsibility. Personal misery was explained by pointing a finger at others or at oneself. This created conflict, guilt and ill will, and it often took time, effort and other scarce resources to make amends.

To say, "I am stressed out," though, is a no-fault



Movie Still Archives



From "Liberty," 1938 Movie Still Archives

verbal gambit. It is far less costly than claiming a nervous breakdown (which places the blame quite literally on one's mental processing system), less costly than Weltschmerz, or disenchantment with the world (which might require political action or even revolution), less costly than making accusations about being ripped off or put down (which might require legal action), less costly than confessing one's sins (which may require religious faith).

That is what makes the expression a ready-made

and noncommittal (and indeed noncommittable) response to a variety of unavoidable questions, including "How are you?" "How are things going?" and, by the way, "Why are you behaving that way?"

"Stress" keeps a reputation intact. With a declaration of stress, no one is blamed and the sufferer is viewed as someone who actively copes with the strains and pressures of modern cosmopolitan living — the kind of person who drinks Coke, watches CNN and carries a Visa card.

A Star is Born

Even a Lab Mouse Needs an Agent

By GINA KOLATA

HOW did the mouse, *E. coli* and the roundworm ever make it into the inner circle of lab animals? Each species has its story, now all but lost in the sands of time.

At the turn of the century, the astonishing genetic work of the Austrian monk, Gregor Mendel, had just been rediscovered after 40 years. But Mendel had only studied plants, so scientists did not know whether his experiments would hold true for animals.

What they needed was the animal equivalent of his pea plants. They needed creatures with distinct strains that could be bred in order to see whether, say, a black-coated father and a brown-coated mother would produce brown, black or mottled offspring.

The Dream Lab Animal

Scientists wanted something small, tame and highly breedable, something that would quickly reach reproductive age. Otherwise, they might have to wait decades to see generational results. They also needed animals with obvious variations, unlike the indistinguishable wild mice and squirrels.

It just so happened that William Castle, a biologist at Harvard University at the turn of the century, knew an eccentric retired schoolteacher, Abbie Lathrop, who bred mice. She had as many as 11,000 of them on her farm in Granby, Mass., and sold them as pets.

Miss Lathrop, it turned out, was unknowingly creating a geneticist's dream animal, following generations of mouse fanciers before her.

In the 18th century, China and Japan had a serious mouse craze. They kept mice as pets and bred them, looking for fancy coats and curious behavior. By the 19th century, the craze had passed to Europeans, who shipped them to and from Asia to breed and gave the different breeds names like white English sable, creamy buff, red cream and ruby-eyed yellow. They also looked for unusual behavioral traits. According to Dr. Lee Silver, a mouse geneticist at Princeton University, some mice, for example, appeared to waltz because of an inherited inner-ear disorder that impaired their equilibrium.

But the biological tradition of the lab mouse did not begin until some time between 1902 and 1908, when Dr. Castle bought Miss Lathrop's mice. From then on, mice, which breed within 10 weeks of their birth, became the sine qua non for

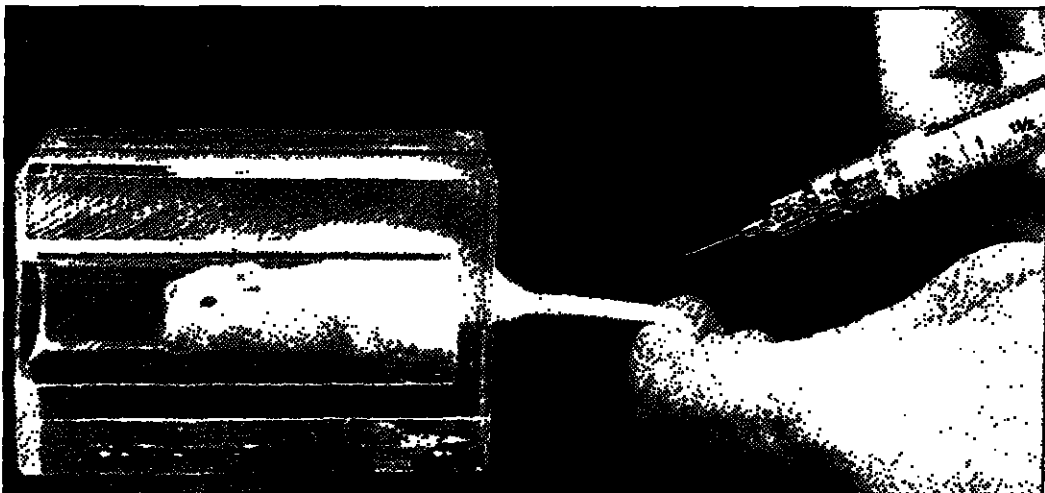


Photo Researchers

A white mouse is injected with a new drug.

those studying mammalian genetics. These days, the ordinary mouse costs about one dollar while the specially mutated can fetch up to \$300.

But what about *E. coli*, the famous bacteria that upstaged the fruit fly as a key lab player? A brief unsigned note in the March 16, 1969, issue of the British science journal *Nature* said that early on few scientists knew how those common laboratory bacteria, *Escherichia coli*, the human intestinal residents that show up in feces and breed every 30 to 90 minutes, became denizens of the lab.

It turns out that generations of molecular biologists owe their work on genes, proteins and cells to a particular strain of *E. coli* that was found in a patient at Stanford University who was being treated for diphtheria in 1922. "Since 1925, the strain has remained on nutrient agar as a stock culture for teaching and research purposes," said *Nature*.

But the bacteria did not become famous until the 1940's, when Stanford scientists used them in pioneering studies showing how genetic traits can be passed among bacteria. Other scientists jumped into the field, and the rest is history.

With superstars like *E. coli* and the mouse, what hope is there today for the scientist who finds an interesting animal and tries to exploit it? To get other scientists to accept a new lab creature is, in a sense, to create a new research library. Success depends on how famous, and persuasive, the creature's champion is.

In the 1960's, Dr. Sidney Brenner, a well-known

and highly regarded molecular biologist at Cambridge University, announced to the world that he was going to close in on a small transparent roundworm, *C. elegans*. It was to be, he said, the *E. coli* of nervous system studies. The worm had a multitude of advantages. Because the full-grown worms have but 100 cells, and because their bodies are transparent, they could be easily studied under a microscope. And scientists could trace the origin and fate of every single cell.

No Can of Worms

Dr. Brenner suggested that if he could look at each nerve cell and learn how it connects to others and what happens if its connection is thwarted, he could understand one nervous system in such exquisite detail that he might be able to understand a more complex system, like the human brain.

Others followed Dr. Brenner's lead, growing their own roundworms and peering at them through microscopes. Scientists, Dr. Silver said, have now identified every connection between every single nerve cell. But was Dr. Brenner right about opening the door to understanding more complex nervous systems?

"No," Dr. Silver said. "The problem with these smaller organisms is that they're not mammals. There is a limit to how much they can tell us about ourselves."

Given the fate of *C. elegans* and *E. coli*, who knows what pond scum or dust mite may emerge as the lab animal of the 21st century?

Bipartisanship and Other White Lies

Continued From Page 1

losers, the Democrats, having indeed lost their majority, have to appeal to bipartisanship if they are to accomplish much of anything.

But they, too, seem to be spoiling for confrontation. There is, for example, this collision course on Capitol Hill: Republicans in Congress are pressing for a balanced budget amendment as their top priority, while the Democrats' No. 1 goal — reforming the campaign finance system — is not even on the Republicans' agenda.

"I don't think the foundation for bipartisanship was set in the 1996 elections," said Bob Carolla, communications director for the liberal organization Americans for Democratic Action. "The general election was the usual vituperative attack on way-out liberals or unpatriotic liberals. How is Newt Gingrich supposed to sit down with David Bonior or, better yet, Barney Frank, and talk about common ground?" Primed for the next battle, he added, "We're getting ready to fight like hell on the balanced budget amendment."

Sign My Bill

The parties also show evidence of using the shroud of bipartisanship to obscure very partisan intentions. For example, in the name of bipartisanship Mr. Clinton last week called on Republicans to sign off on his party's plan to rewrite the campaign finance laws. But the appeal for harmony was as much a strategy by Democrats to turn attention away from their party's crisis over more than \$1 million in questionable contributions, many from foreign sources. In fact, some party officials gloated that the President's announcement was cleverly timed to coincide with — and draw a contrast to — the House vote to reprimand Mr. Gingrich for ethics violations.

Just the same, many Senate Republicans, who want to keep the campaign finance system that helped them win control of Congress, insist

Republicans are more combative. They can afford it.

that the remedy is not to overhaul it but to punish the Democrats who took advantage of it.

Efforts to bring civility and accommodation into politics are not new, and have never been particularly successful. In 1938, for example, Franklin D. Roosevelt called for "cooperation — without trace of partisanship."

Harry Truman took a harder look. "There was never a nonpartisan in politics," he declared. "A man cannot be a nonpartisan and be effective in a political party."

One politician inclined to Roosevelt's point of view is Gov. William F. Weld of Massachusetts, a Republican who calls himself a social liberal and economic conservative. "People do want bipartisanship," he said. "People are sick to death of finger-pointing."

Then why, if people were so eager for comity, did Massachusetts voters defeat Mr. Weld in his race for Senate last year? Rather than go with a moderate who had pledged to work both sides of the aisle, they settled on a liberal Democrat, Senator John F. Kerry.

Still Drinking

All the same, when Mr. Weld called Mr. Kerry to congratulate him after the election, he also invited the Senator to join him for a beer at the saloon favored by Boston politicians.

And even in Congress, lip service to the notion of working together is still being paid. In what may be a delicious coincidence, Republicans and Democrats plan to gather in early March in Hershey, Pa., the city known for producing chocolate kisses. It is billed as the "Congressional Bipartisan Retreat."

JPL/col/20

ECONOMY

The Incredible Shrinking Apple Computer

By STEVE LOHR
and JOHN MARKOFF

It was intended as a flashy display of futuristic technology, as proof that Apple Computer Inc., though troubled and humbled, could still deliver the old magic, a truly distinctive computer.

The audience could not have been more receptive — some 4,000 Apple loyalists packed into the cavernous ballroom of the San Francisco Marriott on Jan. 7 for the annual Macworld computer conference. In good years, these gatherings are celebrations. But this year, with Apple reeling from losses and cutbacks, the Macworld conclave was an effort to revive the sorely tested beliefs of the Apple faithful.

Apple's big day featured a procession of celebrities from Muhammad Ali to the actor Jeff Goldblum; a lengthy speech by Apple's chairman, Gilbert F. Amelio, and a foot-stomping standing ovation for the company's co-founder, Steven P. Jobs, who had just made a dramatic return as a part-time adviser, after agreeing to sell his Next Software Inc. to Apple for \$400 million.

But the grand finale was the demonstration of a limited-edition, 20th-anniversary Macintosh to commemorate the company's founding. The sleek, gray \$9,000 machine, with a flat-panel screen, was declared both a triumph of industrial design and a Ferrari-on-a-desk-top.

Satiji Chahil, Apple's turbaned marketing chief, unveiled the machine to musical fanfare and put it through its paces. He then pushed a button on the computer's control panel and waited for a television news clip of clear weather in San Francisco to appear on the screen — a visual punch line intended to say that just as the West Coast's post-Christmas storms had passed, the worst was over at Apple.

Nothing happened, as Mr. Chahil fumbled unhappily with the machine and the audience squirmed. The good-weather clip never did appear, and Macworld ended on a dead note.

Not much has gone right for Apple lately, from small things like the concept-computer demonstration to big things like the company's faltering recovery campaign. Mr. Amelio took over as chairman and chief executive almost exactly a year ago, after heading the National Semiconductor Corporation for five years. And it has been a rocky first year for Mr. Amelio and his new management team, which has so far been unable to pull Apple out of its spiral of decline. The company's sales are falling, its losses are mounting and its stock price is deeply depressed.

Indeed, Wall Street seems to be betting big against Apple these days. The company's stock, which closed on Friday at \$16.875 a share, is down sharply in the last year, and its 1991 peak of \$73 is only a fond memory. Apple has attracted a growing crowd of short-sellers, professional speculators who bet against a company by selling borrowed shares they hope to replace later at a profit if the stock falls. The short-sellers, in fact, now hold the equivalent of 10 percent of Apple's shares.

Mr. Amelio, who is 53, conceded in an

interview last week that his first year at Apple had been one of "disappointments" in many ways.

"It has been tougher to turn Apple around than I had expected," he said. "I had thought that the organization, in traditional Silicon Valley style, would be more responsive and easier to turn."

Even as Apple grapples with the current crisis, the company must also chart a course for its future. The surprising purchase of Next, announced on Dec. 20, is a step to supply Apple with technology for a powerful software system that will mesh neatly with the Internet and appeal to corporate customers. Apple reached out for Next after its in-house effort to develop a next-generation operating system, known as Copland, collapsed.

In the interview, Mr. Amelio said Apple was considering even bolder moves. Within two or three years, he said, "I would like to have the most compatible personal computer in the industry, able to run more software than anyone — period." His comment suggests a different, closer relationship with the two companies that dominate the technology of personal computing: Intel, the dominant chip maker, and Microsoft, the software leader.

In the past, Apple has viewed Intel and Microsoft as enemies — though the relationship with Microsoft, at least, has long been more complex since it does make versions of its Office applications, like Word and Excel, that run on the Macintosh. The new approach at Apple appears to be one of pragmatic accommodation. "We're not in a world by ourselves," Mr. Amelio said. "We have to be able to support the commodity technology standard."

Apple, company executives say, is considering making a line of machines that run on the Intel Corporation's chips. And 11 days ago, Bill Gates, the chairman of Microsoft, visited Apple headquarters in Cupertino, Calif. The hourlong session attended by Mr. Gates, Mr. Amelio, Mr. Jobs and Ellen Hancock, Apple's chief technology officer, covered other matters, but the subject of closer cooperation in the years ahead was on the agenda. One item, according to people familiar with the meeting, was a discussion of the possibility of Apple's licensing Windows NT, Microsoft's industrial-strength operating system for the corporate market.

An embrace of the Intel-Microsoft technology in any significant way would mean new opportunities and new risks for Apple. It would compete in a far larger market, but in doing so it might sacrifice its distinctive character.

Apple's current plight resulted from a series of missteps. An industry pioneer, it seems to have lost its innovative edge in recent years, allowing Microsoft, in particular, to catch up. It has also bungled the business basics of pricing, production and planning. Many computer users, especially first-time buyers, have come to regard Apple machines as slower and more costly than comparable computers based on the Microsoft-Intel standard.

These are the immediate problems of

marketing, perception and production that Mr. Amelio and his team must address. And industry analysts say Apple's decline must be arrested soon if the company is to revive and regain its stature as an influential force in computing.

"Time is running out for Apple to really turn around and be a great company again," said David Yoffie, a professor at the Harvard Business School. "To make it, Apple needs to manage a return to rising sales, regular profits and a stock-market valuation that reflects some confidence on Wall Street. That window of opportunity for Apple is a matter of quarters, not years."

Without a turnaround, Professor Yoffie warns, Apple's future could resemble that of Data General, a once-powerful computer company still going today, but as a shrunken shadow of what it once had been.

In its heyday, Apple was the biggest company in the personal computer industry. Those days are long gone, and Apple's total value, as measured by its stock price, is a fraction of the value put on computer companies like Compaq, Dell and Gateway.

A takeover is certainly a possibility. Given its depressed stock price, Apple would not carry a high price tag. Its total value, or market capitalization, is about \$2.1 billion. After the Next deal, Apple will still have nearly \$1.4 billion in cash, sharply reducing the effective price for an acquiring company. In the past, Sun Microsystems, Oracle, I.B.M. and others have shown an interest in taking over Apple. And short of a takeover, Silicon Valley's corporate fraternity could bolster Apple with anything from loans to licensing deals instead of sitting back and letting Apple fail, thus losing a company that many regard as a necessary counterweight to Microsoft.

Apple executives reply that dire warnings about the company's future are not only misguided but harmful, as potential customers are scared away from buying Apple machines by pessimistic discussions in the press. Yet the executives, too, feel a sense of urgency. "There is no doubt that this company is viable, but we must work as if we have no time," said Marco Landi, Apple's chief operating officer.

Apple's management has been forced to step up the pace in recent days, after announcing two weeks ago that the company had a larger-than-expected net loss of \$120 million for the quarter that ended in December.

So now, after a big cost-cutting overhaul last year in which the company shed 2,500 employees, Apple is planning another round, promising further turmoil in the ranks of an anxious work force.

The goal, Apple executives say, is to trim the company's operating expenses by another \$400 million a year, or roughly 20 percent. To prepare the new restructuring plan, expected to be announced in March, Apple executives say they are conducting a "bottom-up review" of all projects in the company. They add that it is too early to discuss layoffs. But analysts predict that another 2,500 people, or more, will be cut from the current payroll of 13,000 employees.

The company's surprisingly poor per-

formance in the December quarter — mainly because consumers shunned Apple's desktop Performa computers during the peak Christmas selling season — has also pushed back the timetable for returning to profitability. Previously, management's game plan marked the current quarter as the one when Apple would begin to generate steady profits, quarter after quarter. Now, they say, that crucial benchmark has receded by six months, until the quarter ending in September, which is Apple's fourth fiscal quarter.

Given Apple's mounting losses, its executive pay practices have come under scrutiny. The Apple executives, observes Graef Crystal, a compensation expert and frequent critic of executive pay plans, seem to be rewarded handsomely even as workers are laid off and shareholders suffer. In particular, Mr. Crystal points to Apple's unusual practice last year of replacing its full-year bonus plan with a "special bonus program" that applied only to the quarter that ended in September.

As it turned out, the September quarter was the only one that year in which Apple managed to report a profit, albeit a slender \$25 million on sales of \$2.3 billion. A result was that the company's senior executives received sizable performance-related bonus payments for the year, ranging up to the \$2 million received by Mr. Amelio. The special bonus program, according to Apple's proxy statement, recently sent to shareholders, was intended to insure that the company's top management strives "to rebuild momentum toward increased sales and improved profit performance." But the \$120 million loss in the most recent quarter suggests that there is little lasting momentum or improvement yet at Apple.

Perhaps the most unnerving aspect of Apple's recent woes is the fact that its fortunes continue to decline, even after it has taken many of the cost-saving steps that often succeed in steadying an embattled company.

It has sold off a factory in Colorado and a data-processing center in California. It has farmed out work to outside contractors. Its inventories have been cut drastically, from \$1.95 billion at the end of 1995 to \$448 million a year later. And it has sharply increased the speed at which its products travel through the distribution pipeline from factory to warehouse to stores.

In a manufacturing business, the pace of inventory turnover is regarded as an important measure of management efficiency. A year ago, Apple's inventory was entirely replaced six times a year. Today, the inventory is being replaced 12 times a year, a performance comparable to that of the Compaq Computer Corporation, the industry leader.

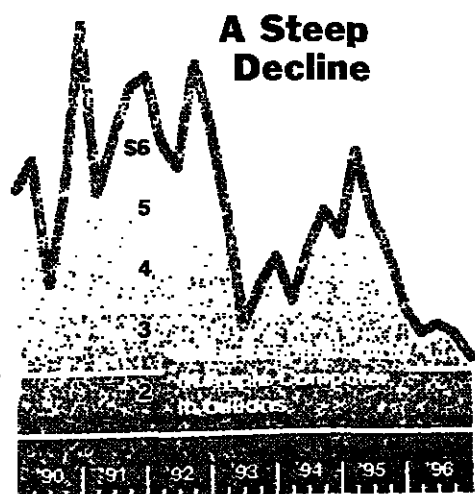
This kind of streamlining in operations saves cash, giving a struggling company badly needed breathing room. Apple's net loss of cash and marketable securities is \$1.8 billion, roughly \$1 billion more than it was 15 months ago. Nearly half of the net increase resulted from a private financing last year and the asset sales added some. But much of the cash came from curbing costs. To buy Next, Apple will spend \$380 million in cash, along with \$20 million worth of Apple shares.

Still, unless Apple can stabilize its business, the cash cushion could dwindle quickly. Indeed, the real issue for Apple these days is the alarming slide in its sales. The company's revenues of \$2.1 billion in the December quarter were down by nearly one-third from a year earlier. The main problem, Apple executives say, was in its Performa machines sold to home users, adding that retail computer sales were disappointing for most companies this Christmas season. True, but it is also indisputable that Apple's sales for the three previous quarters, when compared with the year-earlier quarters, were off each time by 15 percent or more.

The trend of falling sales makes even Apple's new business plan uncertain. After cutting the additional \$400 million in expenses, the company should break even as long as it brings in revenues at a rate of \$8 billion a year, Apple executives contend. Yet the fact that the company generated only \$2.1 billion in revenues in the December quarter, when sales are usually highest, makes an \$8 billion year less likely.

The new management team acknowledges the problem. "You may have the best strategy in the world, but if the customer leaves your platform, you will fail," said Mr. Landi, a 53-year-old Italian who ran Apple's European business before he became chief operating officer last June.

By platform, Mr. Landi means computers running Apple's Macintosh operating-system software, typically on Power PC microchips manufactured by Motorola and I.B.M. Apple and a few Mac clone makers like the Power Computing Corporation are the only ones making machines based on the Macin-



tosh technology. The other personal computer makers — Compaq, I.B.M., Hewlett-Packard, Gateway, Dell and the rest — use Microsoft's Windows operating software and mainly Intel microchips, and they now account for more than 90 percent of the machines sold.

Apple's market share, by contrast, has declined from 9.6 percent worldwide in 1991 to 5.5 percent by the end of last year. The cost-cutting is important, Mr. Amelio said. "But you can't save your way to success," he added. "We have to bring products to market that have a compelling advantage. That's the opportunity to come back for Apple."

Winning customers and convincing software developers to keep writing new programs for the Macintosh platform will be a daunting challenge. In this campaign, Apple has the advantage of a stellar brand name and an estimated 25 million people who use its computers, many of whom still love their Macs. To its devotees, Apple represents innovation, individualism, simplicity of use and elegant design — and an alternative to the industry-standard computers using the Windows-Intel technology, known as Wintel machines.

Customer loyalty does not fit neatly into any financial model or business plan, but it could help. "Apple has a deep and loyal customer base," Professor Yoffie of Harvard said. "Most other companies, given the problems Apple has gone through, would be dead already."

Over the next year or so, the company says it will take steps to reverse the decline in sales with a series of new-product introductions. Toward that end, the company has so far protected its roughly \$600 million research and development budget from the cost-cutters. The intent is to catch up to the Wintel-based machines, if not pass them, on price and performance.

For example, new Powerbook notebook computers, to be introduced next month, will run on microchips rated at speeds up to 200 megahertz, generally faster than Wintel notebooks. The emphasis on high-powered machines will carry over to Macintosh desktop models like the PowerMac line. Its machines will also be priced more aggressively. Apple executives say, including the possibility of offering a \$999 Performa model for the home market. And the Macintosh operating system is being upgraded twice this year to run programs faster, resist crashing and fine-tune its look. The first upgrade, Macintosh OS 7.6, will be released this week, and the next upgrade is due in July.

These conventional competitive steps are mainly an effort to insure that Apple loses no further ground in market segments where it remains strong, including publishing, graphic design and schools. Publishing and design professionals, including people who build Internet sites, favor the Macintosh because it has a wealth of specialized software for those fields. Apple got an early lead in the educational market, and Apple machines still account for half of all computers in schools from kindergarten through high school, though its share is declining.

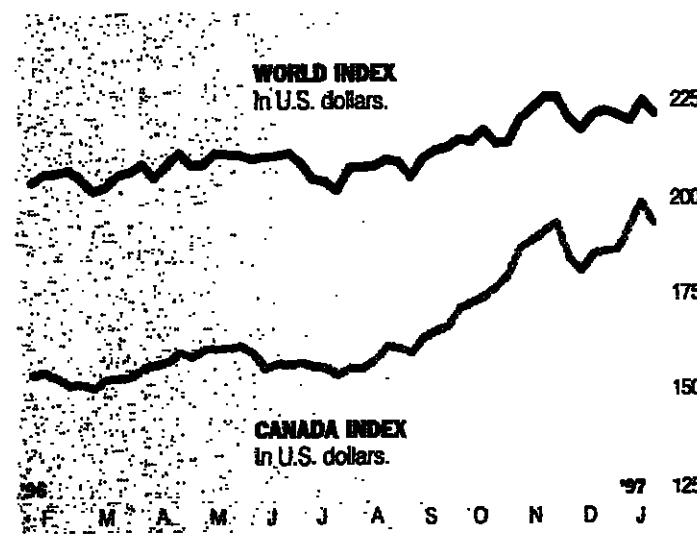
For the longer term, Apple is not only weighing whether to make machines with Intel chips but is counting on a payoff from Next, which is leading the development of its next-generation operating system, code-named Rhapsody. The new system, scheduled to be introduced by mid-1998, is intended as a kind of software bridge. Rhapsody will be able to run programs written in Internet programming languages like Sun Microsystems's Java as well as traditional programs written for the Macintosh operating system.

The expected shift toward small Internet programs, promising to help people do everything from retrieve sports scores to shop for a new house, is regarded by Apple executives as a "new deal" in computing. "It could be a major opportunity for us," Mr. Amelio said.

In the meantime, though, Apple faces the challenge of stopping its slide. It must restore confidence in customers and software developers that it will not only survive, but thrive, and regain its mantle as an edgy innovative company.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

| PERFORMANCE | | IN U.S. DOLLARS | | | | | IN LOCAL CURR. | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Country | Index | Week % Chg. | Week Rank | YTD % Chg. | YTD Rank | Dividend Yield | Index | Week % Chg. | Week Rank | YTD % Chg. | YTD Rank |
| Australia | 215.66 | -1.5 | 19 | -2.8 | 27 | 4.11 | 185.67 | -0.1 | | | |
| Austria | 185.36 | -0.2 | 9 | -2.4 | 24 | 1.83 | 156.65 | 3.1 | | | |
| Belgium | 233.47 | 1.5 | 4 | 2.5 | 13 | 3.34 | 193.22 | 8.3 | | | |
| Brazil | 207.08 | -1.2 | 18 | 9.2 | 3 | 1.52 | 387.83 | 9.7 | | | |
| Britain | 276.05 | -2.1 | 22 | -2.5 | 26 | 3.78 | 251.29 | 2.4 | | | |
| Canada | 196.25 | -2.7 | 23 | 3.4 | 11 | 1.91 | 191.49 | 1.6 | | | |
| Denmark | 352.21 | -1.9 | 20 | 0.1 | 18 | 1.47 | 297.49 | 5.4 | | | |
| Finland | 258.53 | 0.6 | 5 | 5.2 | 7 | 1.89 | 263.51 | 10.9 | | | |
| France | 213.14 | -0.8 | 13 | -0.4 | 19 | 2.66 | 183.40 | 5.1 | | | |
| Germany | 187.70 | -0.9 | 15 | -1.2 | 21 | 1.56 | 158.75 | 4.3 | | | |
| Hong Kong | 496.92 | -3.4 | 26 | -2.0 | 23 | 3.14 | 493.84 | -1.9 | | | |
| Indonesia | 243.15 | 0.3 | 7 | 6.6 | 4 | 1.46 | 354.18 | 7.1 | | | |
| Ireland | 320.67 | -2.8 | 24 | -2.5 | 25 | 3.26 | 281.50 | 2.8 | | | |
| Italy | 95.41 | -0.6 | 11 | 14.3 | 1 | 1.85 | 113.02 | 19.2 | | | |
| Japan | 115.15 | -4.1 | 27 | -10.8 | 28 | 0.89 | 86.53 | -8.6 | | | |
| Malaysia | 628.00 | 1.7 | 3 | 4.1 | 8 | 1.03 | 602.12 | 2.6 | | | |
| Mexico | 1,333.12 | -2.0 | 21 | 9.3 | 2 | 0.97 | 11,400.31 | 8.6 | | | |
| Netherlands | 331.65 | 0.1 | 8 | 1.3 | 22 | 2.67 | 276.45 | 4.2 | | | |
| New Zealand | 92.48 | -3.1 | 25 | 0.8 | 15 | 3.94 | 70.83 | 2.7 | | | |
| Norway | 312.20 | -1.0 | 16 | 5.6 | 6 | 1.82 | 276.08 | 7.8 | | | |
| Philippines | 208.83 | 0.4 | 6 | 2.6 | 12 | 0.83 | 274.13 | 2.7 | | | |
| Singapore | 434.90 | -0.3 | 10 | 3.8 | 10 | 0.98 | 282.18 | 4.3 | | | |
| South Africa | 322.42 | -1.1 | 17 | 1.3 | 14 | 2.43 | 325.05 | -0.2 | | | |
| Spain | 217.74 | -4.6 | 28 | -0.9 | 20 | 2.77 | 226.23 | 4.5 | | | |
| Sweden | 424.54 | -0.8 | 14 | 0.6 | 16 | 1.96 | 452.91 | 6.2 | | | |
| Switzerland | 239.50 | 1.9 | 2 | 0.4 | 17 | 1.39 | 208.56 | 5.0 | | | |
| Thailand | 101.79 | 2.4 | 1 | 6.3 | 5 | 3.37 | 101.90 | 6.9 | | | |
| United States | 314.19 | -0.7 | 12 | 4.1 | 9 | 1.88 | 314.19 | 4.1 | | | |



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

| CURRENCIES | | Exchange rates | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------|--|
| | Friday | Last Friday | % Chg. | Year Ago | |
| Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar | 119.08 | 117.38 | +1.44 | 106.60 | |
| German marks to the U.S. dollar | 1.6284 | 1.6174 | +0.68 | 1.4900 | |
| Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar | 1.3488 | 1.3395 | +0.69 | 1.3815 | |
| U.S. dollars to the British pound | 1.6308 | 1.6674 | -2.19 | 1.5037 | |

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close

UPS AND DOWNS

Jan. 20-24: The Dow Drops 2 Percent on Rate Fears; Foreign Stocks Also Fall

| PRICES | |
|----------------------|------------|
| DOMESTIC EQUITIES | |
| Broad market | Down 0.73% |
| S&P 500 index | 770.52 |
| Blue chips | Down 2.00% |
| Dow 30 industrials | 6,696.48 |
| Small capitalization | Up 0.07% |
| Russell 2000 index | 368.14 |

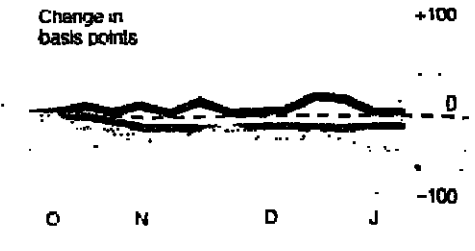
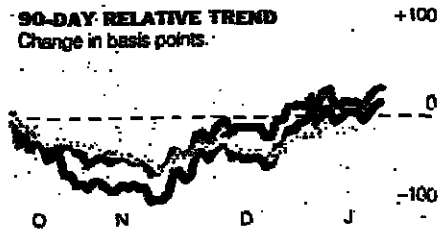
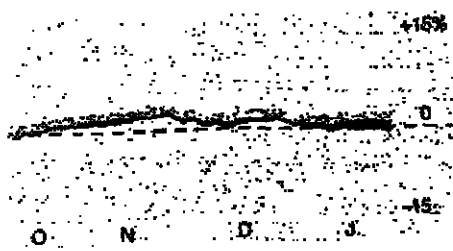
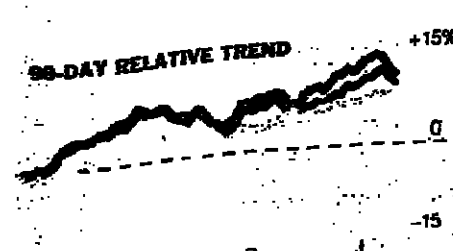
| DOMESTIC BONDS | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Treasuries | Down 0.30% |
| Ryan Labs. Total Return | 193.21 |
| Municipals | Down 0.48% |
| Bond Buyer index | 115.16 |
| Corporates | Down 0.24% |
| Merrill Lynch Master index | 841.84 |

| AROUND THE WORLD | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| European stocks | Down 1.09% |
| F.T.-Actuaries Europe | 238.62 |
| Asian stocks | Down 3.40% |
| F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin | 136.62 |
| Gold | Down 0.84% |
| New York cash price | \$353.40 |

Foreign indices are given in dollar terms.

| YIELDS | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| BONDS | |
| Long bonds | 6.88% |
| 30-year Treasuries | Up 5 basis pts. |
| Notes | 6.04% |
| 2-year Treasuries | Up 8 basis pts. |
| Municipals | 5.87% |
| Bond Buyer index | Up 4 basis pts. |

| OTHER INVESTMENTS | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Money market funds | 4.82% |
| Taxable average | Unchanged |
| Bank C.D.'s | 5.04% |
| 1-year small savers | Unchanged |
| Stocks | 1.94% |
| S&P 500 dividend yield | Up 2 b.p. |



The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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Carrying Out Megan's Law

Every state in the nation now requires registration of convicted sex offenders, and 42 states have enacted laws requiring public notification when a sex offender is released into a community. These are the so-called Megan's laws, triggered by public anger over the 1994 slaying of young Megan Kanka by a released sex offender living near her home in New Jersey. A Federal Megan's law enacted last year accelerated the trend by directing all states to create some form of public notification.

But as New York and other states begin to make available the first lists of names, the question of how best to implement the notification laws has gone largely unaddressed. Few of the laws deal adequately with the public safety issues created by notification itself. Reducing panic and threats of vigilantism depends on how judicious police agencies are in delivering this information to the public.

The New York statute allows three levels of notification, depending on the offender's risk of committing another sex crime as determined by the state. The law allows local police to notify schools, day-care centers and other agencies that serve vulnerable populations when a high-risk offender is released into the community. Those institutions are then at liberty to distribute the information — the name, photo, criminal history and exact address of the offender — as broadly as they see fit. Even if the police take no action to distribute names, anyone can get a statewide list of high-risk offenders from the police simply by requesting the list in writing.

Moderate-risk offenders are subject to similar public notification, though only their zip codes, rather than exact addresses, are given. Low-risk offenders are not subject to community notification. But their sex-offender histories, like those of offenders in the other categories, will be made available from a 900 telephone number to anyone requesting information on a specific person.

Civil libertarians have refrained from challenging the core notion of notification because criminal histories are already a matter of public record and felons are already denied certain rights. But they

have filed a legal challenge to the retroactive application of the New York law to offenders who committed their crimes before Jan. 21, the law's effective date. That covers the great majority of the state's sexual offenders. The Federal district court in Manhattan has ruled that retroactive application is indeed unconstitutional because notification has the effect of a punishment added after the original conviction.

In practice, the New York law seems to be administered too broadly. The names of 17 high-risk offenders on the new "sexually violent predator subdirectory" were released to police departments recently and thus are publicly available. Those offenders, though deemed violent predators for purposes of community notification, were all in jail for less than a year, some for barely six months. The discrepancy between actual sentences and notification decisions suggests a need for better risk assessments to separate the most dangerous individuals from offenders who can return to society safely with proper monitoring.

States more experienced with notification laws have found that simply handing out information without a public education strategy can lead to disaster. Washington, the first state to enact a notification law in 1990, now routinely holds community meetings to provide information on the crime involved (sometimes with the offender in attendance), on how to recognize warning signs in an offender's behavior and on how the offender will be monitored. Neighbors are warned that harassment of offenders will be prosecuted, and that the law could be repealed if it incites vigilantism.

New York's statute gives the public ready access to sensitive information, but it does not give communities guidance on how to use that information. Without a strong education effort, notification will do little more than perpetuate ignorance and fear. The crucial job of educating the community while alerting it to potential danger now falls to local police as they begin carrying out the law.

Help for Families on the Edge

New York City has been splintering ever further into separate worlds of rich and poor as economic trends deepen the divisions and government social programs are cut back. Last week, The New York Times Neediest Cases appeal found heartening evidence that some well-off citizens are trying to bridge the gap. At a time when Wall Street is enjoying its biggest boom in years, employees from seven leading Wall Street firms came forward with substantial contributions that put the drive over the \$4 million mark. That is the highest total in five years but still well below the more than \$5 million raised in 1992.

Cynicism grips many New Yorkers, who have come to feel that private giving cannot make much of a difference. The people who run the seven charities that receive contributions from the Neediest Cases Fund speak of "compassion fatigue." But the money raised by the fund is desperately needed. More families are showing up at food pantries and emergency shelters. Rising unemployment and layoffs of unskilled workers are throwing more fam-

ilies into crisis, raising doubts about their ability to stay together.

With New York City hard pressed to operate its own system of foster care for more than 40,000 children, private charity is essential for the tens of thousands of children who have not yet fallen into the system but are holding on by the barest of threads. Among these families, illness or loss of a job or an eviction can create a crisis. Money contributed to the Neediest Cases Fund can make the difference by providing a poor family with a crib, warm winter blankets, transportation to a health clinic or shoes so that children can go to school.

The charities supported by the Times drive need more than just money. Volunteer help can provide a crucial boost to counseling and mentoring programs for young people and others. Monetary contributions, still critically needed, are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Checks should be made payable to The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund and mailed to P.O. Box 5193, General Post Office, New York, N.Y. 10087.

Editorial Notebook

Spin Nation

It's Not Lying,
It's Just a Habit

Now that the turmoil over Newt Gingrich's ethics violations has led to a reprimand, one aspect of the saga is being overlooked. In an unusual development, the deal in which Mr. Gingrich admitted bringing discredit to the House involved a separate pledge by the Speaker not to belittle the charges against him. The ethics panel's concern, according to James Cole, the special prosecutor, was "not wanting 'spin,' to use a common phrase," making the charges seem trivial.

Political reputations have been embellished at least since the Bible, or maybe Homer. But probably not until now has a politician been officially enjoined not to spin, or let his minions spin, by putting the best interpretation on something he did. To its dismay, if not surprise, the ethics committee later concluded that Mr. Gingrich had violated the agreement. Thanks to a couple of electronic-scanner buffs, he was revealed to have enlisted colleagues to dismiss his misdeeds as akin to jaywalking. When the transcript became public, Republicans insisted that it showed Mr. Gingrich actually complying with the no-spin deal, accomplishing the rare and extremely difficult fact-free double spin in full daylight.

In the end, the ethics panel chose not to do anything about all of this, perhaps concluding that telling Mr. Gingrich not to spin would be like telling him not to breathe. The panel at least deserves credit for coming up with a novel concept of justice, however. Imagine if Richard Nixon's resignation and pardon had been tied to a pledge not to denigrate the charges against him. Politics would never have been the same.

The idea is not that far-fetched. According to a lengthy article by Stuart Taylor in The American Lawyer about the Paula Jones sexual-harassment suit against President Clinton, lawyers on both sides were discussing a possible settlement in which Mr. Clinton was to agree not to deny the charges outright. When a zealous White House spinmeister leaked word to CNN that Ms. Jones was dropping her suit because she knew she had no case, Ms. Jones's lawyers charged a breach of faith and broke off the settlement talks.

Spinning usually does not get Presidents into trou-

ble. On the contrary, historians say that Franklin Roosevelt was good at it, and that John Kennedy was brilliant. After the 1961 summit meeting in Vienna, for example, Kennedy's aides put out the word that he had stood up well to Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet leader, whereas it later turned out that he had been eaten alive.

Not until 1984, according to William Safire's "New Political Dictionary," did the term "spin" enter into popular use. That was when a phalanx of aides to President Reagan — the original "spin doctors" — entered the press room like a flying wedge, bent on convincing reporters that Mr. Reagan had won the first campaign debate with Walter Mondale when it was obvious to anyone who had witnessed it that he had lost. One definition of progress — or linguistic decline — is that nowadays we have a television show called "Spin City" and press rooms at Presidential debates with cordoned-off sections for spin doctors.

We also have Sunday morning talk shows with retired spin doctors like George Stephanopoulos and David Gergen helping to satisfy America's apparently unlimited appetite for opinions, especially unconsidered opinion. Spinning is such a part of the atmosphere that it took about 17 seconds after Mr. Clinton's Inaugural Address for conventional wisdom among television commentators to decide that it was a flop. (Two thumbs down! Details at 11.) Small wonder that politicians want to get out first with their own spin, even if they have to create the opportunity by promising not to spin.

The significance of the Gingrich case is that, if spinning is unavoidable, mixing it up with judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings is risky. Nonetheless, it is happening. When James Carville, another Clinton spin doctor, went on the attack against Kenneth Starr, the Whitewater special prosecutor, some Republicans declared that he and the President might be guilty of conspiring to obstruct justice. Maybe someone ought to be a broker in which Mr. Clinton, Mr. Gingrich and various others pledge to stop themselves before they spin again. It could never be enforced, of course, since both sides would want to put their spin on who actually got the better part of the deal.

STEVEN R. WEISMAN

How Japanese Culture Keeps War Deeds Veiled

To the Editor:
"A Japanese Generation Haunted by Its Past" (front page, Jan. 22) points to an important character trait at the root of Japanese wartime atrocities: refusal to take individual responsibility for one's actions in the face of collective brutality.

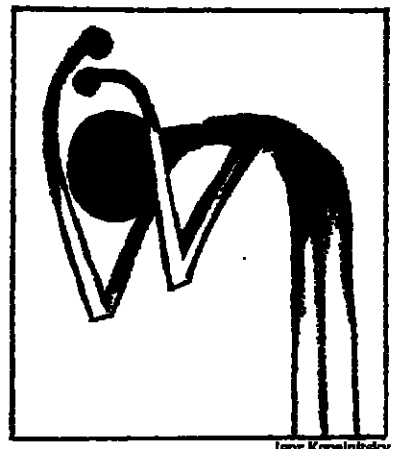
While this trait is by no means limited to the Japanese, the tendency is pronounced, perhaps even condoned, in Japan, where the culture attaches enormous importance to self-abnegation. The language itself expresses this: The subject of Japanese sentences is frequently omitted, lending — to Western ears — a feeling of passivity. Things happen, and the actor is to be understood in context, or to remain anonymous. Hence, the common form of apology *Moshiwase gozaimasen*, which translates roughly as "there is no excuse."

I do not mean to suggest that Japanese are incapable of taking responsibility for errors or evil acts. In fact, Japanese organizational leaders, like company presidents, frequently tender their resignations to atone for disaster. Conversely, I cannot argue that the Judeo-Christian pattern of guilt and remorse is superior. Sins that give rise to feelings of guilt and remorse have, after all, been committed, and the damage has been done.

In his novel "The Sea and Poison," the great Japanese writer Shusaku Endo takes up the issue of wartime atrocities. The story is based on real

events, with doctors using prisoners of war for brutal experiments. The characters assisting in this torture are weak, essentially bit players in a tale of horror. They become worthy of pity because in the aftermath of barbarity, they utterly lack the means to confront and take responsibility for what they have done.

The same is true of the old men



Igor Kopylovsky

you describe. Their crimes are perpetuated, not because they have elected — as they must — to get on with their lives, but because they have not taught the young people the whole truth of where they have been, what they have seen and what they have done.

ALEXANDER KENT
Highland Park, N.J., Jan. 22, 1997

Dangers of Suppression

To the Editor:
The Jan. 22 front-page article on the inability of Japanese veterans to discuss wartime experiences mentioned Japan's unwillingness to accept blame and apologize for atrocities committed in the 1930's and 40's as it occupied China and Korea. This highlights a basic problem with the way history, particularly the history of war, is taught: insufficient treatment of destruction and human suffering.

It is usually taught in terms of winners and losers. The winners are made to feel proud, and the level of sacrifice incurred is often justified as the worthwhile cost of victory.

For the losers, shame and the refusal to accept the result are common. Because a thorough explanation would lead to a national sense of failure, shame and, possibly, inferiority — psychological conditions almost no government wishes to instill — war losses are barely touched upon by a losing nation. This failure to make the complete truth available to a population is important even with a minor war. It is of major importance — national and international — when dealing with a war the magnitude of World War II, in which as many as 60 million people may have been killed.

Just think of the implications as our weapons of mass destruction proliferate.

ADELIO S. SMOES
Northport, L.I., Jan. 23, 1997

German Holocaust Memorials Should Be Private

To the Editor:
No one can reasonably dispute the morality of Daniel Jonah Goldhagen's argument for a German memorial to homosexuals victimized by the Third Reich and against the ordering of victims by numbers or intensity of suffering (Op-Ed, Jan. 18).

Yet, Mr. Goldhagen's reasoning exposes a fundamental fault in discussions of Germany's responsibility to remember those who died at the hands of the Nazis. His plea is for a public memorial — financed and erected by the state — when what is needed are personal and even pri-

vate reminders of what transpired between 1933 and 1945.

Recent German attempts at memorialization have been problematic, either calculated to avoid offending any constituency through exclusion or accusation, or so confounded by conflicts of artistic representation and historical veracity as to become unbuildable.

In the meantime, other established memorials must compete for financing, otherwise decaying or succumbing to pressures for commercial development or historically comforting amnesia.

In this regard, the former East Germany did better than the West in remembering the Third Reich's crimes. Despite the obvious ideological manipulation, almost every street carried markers identifying inhabitants who resisted and fell victim to the Nazis. The East German practice made clear that victims were everywhere. And so were oppressors.

That actions and consequences during the Third Reich were personal, for millions and millions: evil and innocent, is what Mr. Goldhagen demonstrates in his book "Hitler's Willing Executioners." While Germany can never have too many memorials to the victims of Nazi crimes, it can have the wrong kind of memorials.

JAMES J. WARD
Allentown, Pa., Jan. 20, 1997
The writer is professor of history at Cedar Crest College.

Hail an Israeli Moderate

To the Editor:
It is heartening to see a man like Yitzhak Mordechai, who you say carries "the least ideological baggage" in the Israeli Cabinet, gaining a position of prominence, that of Defense Minister (news article, Jan. 23).

Let us hope that Mr. Mordechai understands that lasting peace will take more than the control of Arab territory: that it will require the building of an economically viable Palestinian infrastructure with a modern educational system. Nothing will be accomplished until that exists.

LURENE K. HELZER
San Francisco, Jan. 23, 1997

Repair Depression's Source or Drug the Result?

To the Editor:
It is entirely plausible that the number of people in this country who are depressed is enormous. But the group that produced the consensus statement featured in "Lag Seen in Aid for Depression" (Health page, Jan. 22) apparently did not ask why that is.

Are all of these people depressed because they are genetically predisposed to pathologically low levels of serotonin, one of the neurotransmitters that influence mood? Or are at least some depressed because, for example, they don't have child support or satisfying jobs or feel part of communities that give their lives meaning?

If a significant number of people are depressed for such reasons, we might conclude that, instead of medicating them, we ought to change the conditions that make them depressed.

Jones and Hill Cases

To the Editor:
Mary Jean Tully (letter, Jan. 23), writing about the Paula Jones's sexual harassment lawsuit against President Clinton, argues that Ms. Jones would "have found ... that feminism is sisterhood if she had brought charges against Gov. Bill Clinton at the time of the alleged incident."

According to Ms. Tully's logic, by waiting for Clarence Thomas to become Justice Thomas, Anita Hill, too, should come across as someone who seeks "notoriety and perhaps some political gain." Yet, the National Organization for Women rallied behind Ms. Hill.

Does Ms. Tully realize that abuse is a traumatic event not easily disclosed? The victim often needs time to build up the courage to proceed. Shunning victims who do not come forward immediately is the ultimate injustice.

DAVID S. LEE
New York, Jan. 22, 1997
The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

Inherent Conflict

To the Editor:
I found your Jan. 22 Health page article on depression disturbing. Is it common practice for transnational pharmaceutical companies to pay the expenses for the national conventions of prominent psychiatric organizations?

Does anyone find it even mildly disturbing that a National Depressive and Manic-Depressive Association panel, whose convention expenses were paid for by Bristol-Myers Squibb, the maker of Serzone, would arrive at the recommendation that more people be prescribed antidepressants?

I do not mean to question the impartiality of the panel's participants, but the conflict of interest inherent in this arrangement is difficult to overlook.

I am not an expert on depression. But I know that humankind has not uncovered a fraction of the mysteries of the human brain. Can psychiatrists, in their professional wisdom, truly feel comfortable prescribing mood-altering drugs in abundance without being a little bit wary of the long-term social and behavioral consequences?

RYAN J. MCILLLEN
Austin, Tex., Jan. 22, 1997

'Justice' for Gingrich And for Clinton, Too

To the Editor:
Re your Jan. 22 editorial "Discredit on the House":

When we cut through the blather concerning Speaker Newt Gingrich's violation of House rules and assess the results of the action to reprimand him, we find that Republicans voted their conscience in exacting, as you put it, a "just penalty for his misbehavior." Yet, liberal news media continue to beat the partisan drums.

What now? I think we can expect more partisan obfuscation and protestations from liberal news media as the conscience of America examines a flawed President and exacts a "just penalty."

CARL R. SMINK
Dallas, Jan. 22, 1997

Shaking in Their Graves

To the Editor:
Speaker Newt Gingrich is fined \$300,000 for violating House ethics rules, which he may take out of his campaign funds, and keep his job (front page, Jan. 22)? Lincoln and Jefferson must be causing significant perturbation in their interment sites. My father's grave is back in Oklahoma, a few miles from where he grew up. I'm glad I'm not there. The turbulence must seem like an earthquake.

FRANK VANCE
San Diego, Jan. 22, 1997

On the Mexico Bailout

To the Editor:
In your Jan. 18 editorial "Vindication of the Mexican Bailout," you trumpet the accomplishments of President Clinton for saving Mexico, and arguably the United States, from an economic crisis. You write that "Mexico's early repayment of loans made by the United States in 1994 puts the finishing touch on a public-policy success."

But you did not note that the International Monetary Fund has been pressured into lending the Mexican Government yet more money so that we could get back ours.

Under those circumstances, Mr. Clinton's "public-policy success" is neither public policy nor success. When the International Monetary Fund has been repaid, you can give the Clinton Administration a pat on the back for a job well done. Until then, the jury is out.

We should be thankful that we did not have a currency crisis when the Treasury's currency intervention fund was tapped to lend Mexico more than \$13 billion and the yen and the dollar almost spun out of control.

ANDREW FURMAN
Maplewood, N.J., Jan. 18, 1997

Opera House Overhaul

To the Editor:
I was delighted to read about the renovation project at the Manhattan Opera House, which was built by Oscar Hammerstein and is now to become a convention hall (news article, Jan. 22).

There is a companion Hammerstein building, with even larger capacity, in Philadelphia. When Oscar Hammerstein 3d visited Philadelphia to raise interest in the restoration of this structure, a woman rushed up and gushed how much she liked music, her favorite composer being Frank Lloyd Webber. Mr. Hammerstein realized there was no prospect there.

Craig Morrison, the architect who is overseeing the New York project, is a specialist in historic American theaters. He also has the material for a great book about the audiences that create various entertainment venues, but he is too busy tending to them to stop and write.

GERSL N. KAY
Philadelphia, Jan. 22, 1997
The writer is chairman of Building Conservation International.

سید الیاس

Foreign Affairs

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Pickle In the Middle

WASHINGTON Whenever U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross would accompany Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to meetings at the Erez checkpoint, an Israeli officer there used to pull Ross aside and whisper, "You have to make this work." When Israeli and Palestinian negotiators got into a dispute over Shuhadah Road, a key street that bisected Hebron and ran right in front of the Jewish settlers there, they decided to compromise by widening it, to keep everyone farther apart. But because neither side trusted the other, Aaron Miller, Ross's deputy, was asked to go down to Shuhadah Road with a tape measure and, while Israelis and Palestinians looked on, measure the street and produce a plan for a just and lasting widening of Shuhadah road.

Never before has an Israeli government let the U.S. get this deep into an Israeli-Palestinian negotiation. No issue was too small for U.S. mediation. That is both good news and really scary. Not only were U.S. mediators measuring the sidewalks in Hebron, but, more important, they became the instrument through which Israelis, and to some extent Palestinians, forced their leaders to cut this deal. The U.S. was the bridge between an Israeli silent majority that wanted this Hebron withdrawal and an Israeli leader who was initially ambivalent about it. The U.S. was also the reality principle, letting both sides know what was possible and what was not.

Some of these roles the U.S. will want to continue playing, but it must extricate itself from others quickly. The reason the relationship between Yitzhak Rabin and Arafat worked — without the U.S. — was that they had developed, through a difficult learning process, a degree of mutual trust. For them the trust was central and the words and the timetables could always be adjusted around it. Arafat and Netanyahu had no trust, so for them the words were everything. And the reason the U.S. was drawn so deeply into their negotiations was that Arafat and Netanyahu didn't even trust each other's words, so a sheriff was needed to say in each of them what they wouldn't say to each other and to guarantee to each the other man's words.

Rabin and Arafat created out of their mutual trust workable agreements. The question now is, can Netanyahu and Arafat create out of their workable agreement some mutual trust?

That's crucial, because it's impossible to imagine them addressing the final-status issues, let alone the day-to-day ones that will crop up, without a more self-sustaining relationship.

Can the U.S. stop holding hands yet in the Mideast?

And without that, the U.S. will be caught in the crossfire.

Where the U.S. must remain engaged is as the reality principle, not only for Israelis and Palestinians but also for Egypt and Syria. There is a widespread feeling among U.S. officials that Egypt initially tried to block this Hebron deal. What Netanyahu finally admitted in Hebron was that there is only one peace process: Oslo. What the Egyptians need to admit is that there is only one playing field. That is, the Egyptians seem ambivalent about the peace process now, because it means a new playing field in the Middle East — one on which Israel will be fully integrated and the competition will be largely economic, where Egypt feels a disadvantage. Either Egypt defines another playing field that would also include Israel, or it accommodates to this one. But if it continues to fight it, Egypt will find itself in a clash with America no less acrimonious than the one Netanyahu encountered when he tried to oppose Oslo without an alternative.

There will now be renewed pressure to resume the Syria-Israel talks. Don't rush it. An Israeli-Palestinian deal is still the key to regional peace. The U.S. needs to tell Syria and Israel that if they want to start up talks again, they cannot avoid the real issues again. Netanyahu will have to commit, up front, to withdraw from the Golan. Hafez al-Assad will have to commit, not only to full peace with Israel, but also to negotiate peacefully. Assad is living in a dream world if he thinks he can defy the laws of gravity that have governed every other Arab-Israeli negotiation: that Israel must be offered not only the substance of coexistence, but also a negotiating process — with real people-to-people interactions — that demonstrates a willingness for coexistence. That's the only way Israel will cede territory.

If Syria and Israel are not ready for that sort of negotiation, then the U.S. should suggest that this would be a perfect time for France to mediate.

Teaching From The Heart

Following is an excerpt from an essay Ennis Cosby wrote in 1993 when he was studying for his master's degree at Columbia Teachers College. This is reprinted with permission from the Ennis William Cosby Foundation, which the Cosby family set up after his death on Jan. 16.

By Ennis Cosby

What got me involved in the educational field was my experience student-

teaching for a year at Dean Rusk Elementary School. Three days a week I was assigned to teach, as an assistant, 24 third graders who were living in the worst neighborhood in Atlanta. I felt that this experience would be rewarding because a true test for a teacher is to heal people who need it most.

After two weeks of working at the school, the teacher, who was female, brought to my attention that the young black males in the class who had no fathers would do better academically when I was in the classroom than on the days I was absent. That is what convinced me that I was needed in the academic field. It amazed me that academic performance by children could be altered by a simple motivational factor like a direct role model.

I was aware of the statistical dominance of female teachers in the academic field, and I felt that as a male I would have a lot of influence on children who had no fathers or children who had dyslexia. Of course, the group of students I imagined would

look at me as a direct role model would be black males who have dyslexia.

I got so involved with the elementary school that I began to go to the special education classes and offered my services to the teacher. I really bonded with the kids in the special education class. I was teaching from the heart, and the kids' biggest need seemed to be a teacher who cared about them and their individual needs.

The greatest reward for me was working with a child who was mentally retarded and after three weeks that child began to read his first words. Just like being a therapist, I feel that educating children is a form of healing. Working at this school was a confidence booster because if I could relate to these kids and get positive results I knew I could teach anywhere. The measure of a great teacher is working with the most raw, unrefined students and making a change. It just seems too easy measuring a teacher's ability when that teacher is already working with students who are successful in school.

In the middle of my last year in college, I knew that I wanted to work with children who had learning disabilities. I wanted to go to a graduate program that would be the best at providing me with the newest information. There were two events in my life that were extremely important. The first was graduating from college. The second was accomplishing the goal of getting into graduate school even though I am dyslexic.

Since leaving Atlanta I have not taught in the classroom. I have no real experience as a teacher, but I do have some natural attributes that I

feel may help me become an elite teacher. First, I have a natural love for children, and children get along with me very well. It is one of those nonobservable variables that exists between me and children. I am far from being perfect, but I get along very well with most children.

Second, I believe in chances, so I do not give up on people or children. I know that if I have a class full of kids I would want all of them to be successful students. I believe in finding solutions to any and every problem. I don't believe in quitting because of my academic experiences. With all of the chances I was given, I am going to

Educating children is a form of healing.

give all of my students as many chances as they need to find themselves as students.

Third, I believe teachers need to bond with students. When I reflect on my favorite teachers in my life, they were teachers who were my friends too. I see teachers wearing many titles besides TEACHER. I see psychologist, mother, father, friend and adviser. I believe students react to my behavior. The more I give of myself, the more they will give back to me. Fourth, I believe in a saying one of my favorite teachers told me: "Whatever you teach a child, it will not be digest-

Blueprint for a Bipartisan Foreign Policy

By Madeleine K. Albright

WASHINGTON Dean Acheson wrote of being present, a half-century ago, at the creation of a new era. Today, we, too, have that privilege and the responsibility that goes along with it.

Then, our leaders had the foresight to maintain a strong America while bolstering democratic forces around the world and building institutions like NATO, the United Nations and World Bank to foster international cooperation and economic growth. They did so on a bipartisan basis.

Today, a new framework for American leadership, adapted to the needs of a new century, is being built. Its success will depend, in significant measure, on whether the spirit of bipartisanship that arose after World War II can be revived.

Cynics might suggest that an Administration call for bipartisanship is prompted less by principle than by an ability to count. And we will certainly need votes from both parties in Congress to sustain many of our

The first tests: the foreign policy budget and chemical arms.

foreign policy initiatives. But bipartisanship also suits our times.

For decades, the cold war categorized not only foreign nations but all those involved in foreign policy. Today, the labels of the past — hawk, dove, liberal, conservative — mean little. The greatest divide is between the proponents and opponents of American engagement, a divide that does not respect party lines.

Fortunately, both parties are led by people who understand the importance of American leadership. This matters, because a bipartisan foreign policy allows us to act with greater credibility on the world stage. It inspires trust from our allies and respect from those tempted to oppose us. It helps us play a diplomatic part — as peacemaker and problem solver — that other nations cannot, thereby enhancing our prestige while advancing our interests. And it reinforces America's role as a model for strengthening democratic forces.

Disagreements about tactics aside, Madeleine K. Albright is the Secretary of State.

the prospects for bipartisanship are brightened by the existing broad support for our primary objectives. There is a consensus on the need to advance prosperity at home by promoting an open and expanding global economy, and for working with our allies to create an increasingly united, democratic and stable Europe.

Both parties see the importance of building an Asian-Pacific community with shared economic and security goals and of helping to resolve dangerous disputes in the Mideast and other strategic regions. We all want to halt the spread of weapons of mass destruction and to combat terrorists, drug traffickers and international crime. And there is a commitment to strengthen the forces around the globe working for human rights, democracy, development, a healthy environment and the rule of law.

Of course, the issues related to these priorities will not evade scrutiny and debate. Nor should they. While Congress will have a responsibility to be reasonable in its expectations, the Administration will bear the burden of proof. It will be our task to establish the link between our broad goals and the issues before us: the expansion of NATO, the containment of rogue regimes, management of important bilateral relationships (including those with China, Russia and Ukraine) and our strategies in often overlooked regions of Latin America, Africa and South Asia. The complexity of this task has been underlined, even this past week, by questions about Beijing's intentions in Hong Kong, a flare-up of tensions over Cyprus and a new round of violence in Zaire and Rwanda.

The hope that bipartisanship can make the transition from rhetoric to reality will be tested early.

On Feb. 6, the President will submit a budget that trims the deficit while meeting international priorities and proposing repayment of our debts to the United Nations and multilateral banks. Enactment of this budget is essential if we are to have the tools to shape events rather than merely react to them. To maintain American strength, we need not only a world-class military but world-class diplomacy. Yet in recent years spending on international affairs — typically 1 percent of the Federal budget — has been cut sharply, and our diplomatic presence overseas has contracted.

As I present our budget requests to Congress, I recognize my duty to explain our plans and priorities with a logic Americans can embrace. And I will do all I can to see that taxpayers get full value from their investment.

In another test of bipartisanship, the Administration will seek the Senate's early approval for American participation in the Chemical Weapons Convention negotiated under Presidents Reagan and Bush. If we do

not act before April 29, we will not be an original party to this treaty. This would harm our interests by precluding us from helping to write the rules under which the pact will be verified.

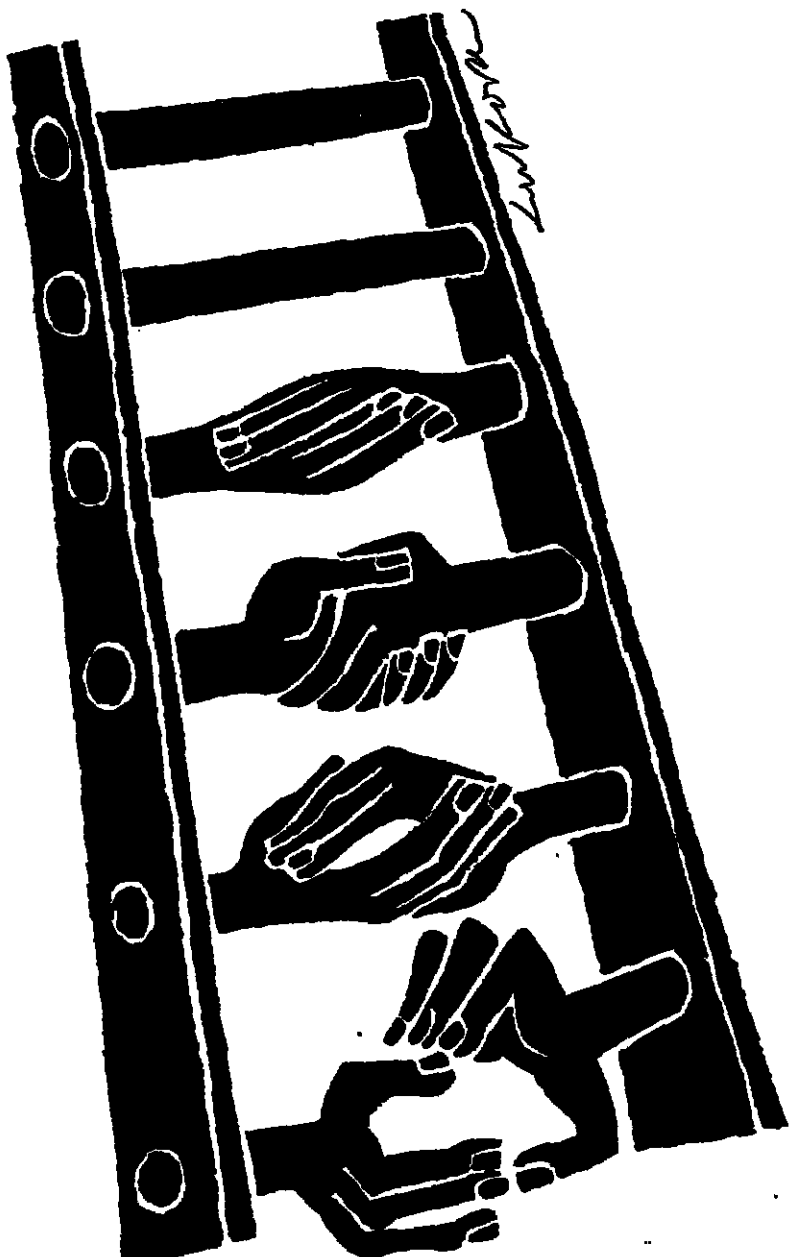
The treaty embodies a commitment to our safety and the protection of our armed forces. It is supported by many in both parties, by the business community and our military. But it also has its opponents. The American people deserve a healthy debate, in which American interests are weighed and a timely vote is taken.

I have worked in or studied Congress much of my adult life. I know that bipartisanship is a two-way street. I also know that legislators almost always feel they have been insufficiently consulted on foreign policy matters, while Secretaries of

State sometimes feel that consulting with Congress is all they do. Bridging this gap in perception will require hard work and good faith.

As Secretary of State, I will challenge Congress to be constructive in what it asks of us, but I will keep an open door and an open mind to insure the fullest possible consultations.

In our democracy, bipartisanship is never absolute. But history has given us the opportunity, at century's end, to re-create the spirit of cooperation that earlier served our nation and world well. By following the approach of the giants who preceded us — Truman, Eisenhower and Marshall — we can give their generation the homage it merits and the next generation the security it deserves.



Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

This Magli Moment

WASHINGTON I stood in line behind Johnnie Cochran to the inaugural Address.

A stream of men and women excitedly approached, wanting to have their pictures taken with the lawyer. Some asked Mr. Cochran to crouch a bit so they could capture that other icon of democracy, the Capitol dome, in the background.

The lawyer obliged, beaming. A few minutes later, I wondered if this man who had persuaded a jury to ignore evidence and racial grudges, this man who had the gall to rank the Simpson case as a civil rights struggle akin to Brown v. Board of Education, felt a twinge when the President talked about "the divide of race" as "America's constant curse," and urged against succumbing "to the dark impulses that lurk in... the soul."

Probably not. The dark impulses have been good to Mr. Cochran. So what if that infamous verdict was a moral, social and cultural stain on America? Johnnie Cochran now has his own show on Court TV.

Indeed, Mr. Cochran was so busy in New York this month preparing for the debut of his show that he missed most of the hearing in California to overturn the murder conviction of his client Elmer (Geronimo) Pratt, the former Black Panther leader who may have been wrongly sent to prison 25 years ago. Mr. Pratt's other lawyer, Stuart Hanlon, came from San Francisco, even though his wife had just been hospitalized with leukemia. But the disgusting Simpson affair — "awfulness topped awfulness," as writer Jeffrey Toobin puts it — finally

Daniel Petrocelli, my hero.

has a hero. He is Daniel Petrocelli.

It was thrilling to see Mr. Petrocelli, Fred Goldman's lawyer, make the case that had been left unmade by the emotional and bumbling Christopher Darden and the arrogant and bumbling Marcia Clark. (Ms. Clark also has a TV show, "LadyLaw." The first printing of her \$4 million book will be one million copies. She has even become something of a feminist symbol, but the less said about that, the better.)

Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman, who had seemed almost irrelevant in the first trial, were vividly brought to life by Mr. Petrocelli. He pleaded with jurors to read the clues that the butchered pair had left behind, as they pulled off their murderer's knit cap, yanked off his glove, dug nails into his left hand and bled so much that the killer left prints with those size 12 Bruno Magli.

Mr. Petrocelli was not cowed by Mr. Simpson's fame or charm, calling him a philanderer, a liar and a wife-beater "so obsessed with trying to salvage his image and protect himself that he will smear the name of the mother of his children while she rests in her grave."

He showed that Mr. Simpson had no answers to explain away the cat's cradle of blood, hair, clothes, fibers and 30 photos of himself wearing the Bruno Magli shoes he said he never owned. Mr. Petrocelli needed no flaccid, Magli-guilty doggerel. "If that photo is real," he said, "O. J. Simpson is the killer."

He debunked as ludicrous the notion that there was an elaborate police conspiracy to frame O. J. The only scandal with the L.A. cops here was the favored treatment they had given the violent star for years.

One day in court, I listened to a tape of police responding to a 911 call at Nicole Simpson's house eight months before the murders, after her ex-husband kicked in the door and had what she called an "animalistic" fit. "Because of your celebrity," an officer reassured O. J., "we want to keep it as small as possible."

An O. J. jury is about to deliberate again. Let's hope, this time, it won't be a sham. Mr. Toobin, the author of a book on the case, does not think a guilty verdict would remedy "the poison that this case has spread." He said, "If Simpson loses this case, the legacy will be a black verdict and a white verdict."

But if justice is to be colorblind, then juries cannot engage in racial payback. The innocent verdict for Mr. Simpson was a guilty verdict for America. Johnnie Cochran's gift to jurisprudence was, as Jeffrey Rosen wrote in *The New Republic*, "to transform a pampered celebrity into a victim of oppression."

But what if Mr. Petrocelli's truth could reverse Mr. Cochran's lie? What if a guilty verdict for Mr. Simpson could find America not guilty?

Wouldn't that be glorious? Oh, there is one thing that might ruin it: Mr. Petrocelli could get a show of his own.

FILM

Making Money Abroad, And Also a Few Enemies

By JUDITH MILLER

EVERYONE loves American movies. Well, almost everyone. China's effort to derail two films about the Dalai Lama, "Kundun," directed by Martin Scorsese, and "Seven Years in Tibet," starring Brad Pitt, suggests that Beijing was not happy about American efforts to lionize Tibet's spiritual leader. But China is hardly alone.

In recent months, several American films have come under savage attack by foreign governments, religious sects, nationalist parties or outraged intellectuals and other critics who assail movies that Hollywood considers as American as apple pie. Some foreigners, it seems, hate apples or pie. And while American studios are willing to antagonize foreigners by making movies about controversial political events or figures — films like "Michael Collins" or "Evita" — they often fail to anticipate the furor stirred up by such seemingly innocent films as "Babe" and "Independence Day."

Even some of us who make movies underestimate their influence abroad, said Irwin Winkler, who has produced huge hits like "Rocky" and "Raging Bull." "American movies sell American culture. Foreigners want to see American movies. But that's also why so many foreign governments and groups object to them."

Despite protests, censorship and campaigns to suppress American films, however, several of these movies have drawn record audiences and are making huge profits abroad. And it is these profits rather than moral principle that best insure Hollywood's willingness to continue producing such films, industry experts agree.

Consider "Independence Day," the American blockbuster that has taken in over \$466 million worldwide. It is expected to make more money at the box office than the entire slate of films released last year by Universal, Paramount and Sony combined, according to Tom Pollock, the former chairman of MCA/Universal and the current chairman of the American Film Institute. To 20th Century Fox executives, it seemed an unobjectionable, sure-fire hit given its politically correct themes and multicultural cast of characters. In the action thriller, an affable baby

boomer President and a quirky, ecologically inclined Jewish computer scientist join forces with a black fighter pilot to thwart an alien invasion of earth.

One might think that wide-screen images of the aliens' annihilation of the White House, Manhattan and Los Angeles in less than 15 minutes of gory celluloid would exhilarate America's foreign enemies. But Hezbollah, the Lebanese Shiite Muslim radicals who accuse the "great Satan" of fomenting conspiracies against Arabs and Muslims throughout the Middle East, despises the film almost as much as it does America.

Last fall, Hezbollah, or the Party of God, issued a statement calling the film "propaganda for the so-called genius of the Jews and their alleged concern for humanity." Warning Muslim believers to boycott the movie, which was directed by Roland Emmerich, who is not Jewish but German, Hezbollah reminded fellow Muslims that paying money to see the film would "reward the bloodsuckers of Qana," a reference to Israel (which bombed Qana, a U.N. camp in Lebanon), and Israel's protector, the United States.

But according to a Fox executive who keeps track of international sales, Hezbollah's warning did not hurt box office revenues in Lebanon, which has an estimated four million people. Quite the contrary. Between Sept. 20 and Dec. 12, the executive said, some 98,000 people went to see "Independence Day" in Lebanon; the film grossed almost \$600,000 — an impressive showing for any film. By contrast, the film took in about \$670,000 in Egypt, which has a population of 60 million. The only other Middle Eastern country in which the film fared better than in Lebanon was Israel, where it grossed \$4.7 million.

Moreover, not a single violent incident was reported during the film's 12-week run in Lebanon or anywhere else in the Middle East, the executive said. In fact, several of the film's leading actors, including Jeff Goldblum, who plays the computer scientist, were unaware that Hezbollah had issued its political version of a fatwa, a religious ruling, against the film.

"I respect anyone's religion," Mr. Goldblum said in an interview, "but I think Hezbollah has missed the point: the film is not about American Jews saving the world; it's about

teamwork among people of different religions and nationalities to defeat a common enemy." Hezbollah's anti-Jewish crusade, he added, "does not sit well with me."

The film whose politics seemed so innocuous to its American producers, however, did not sit well with Lebanon's censors either. Before it was released in Beirut, the Interior Ministry's Public Security Department eliminated several scenes. The censors "cut one in which Judd Hirsch, who plays Mr. Goldblum's gemütlich, Yiddish-spouting father, puts on a yarmulke as he leads White House officials and soldiers in a Hebrew prayer; another showed Israeli troops alongside Arab soldiers as they prepared to fight the aliens."

Although Fox has not distributed the videocassette of the film in Lebanon, journalists there said that pirated cassettes were also selling briskly in Beirut. Cassettes are also in demand in Tehran, where austere Islamic regime bans most American-made movies. But virtually all American films are available through underground video clubs in Iran, where "Baywatch," incidentally, is quite popular. Banning films in such authoritarian states, like banning books in Boston, is great for business.

Another American-financed political film that has generated fierce debate in Ireland and Britain is "Michael Collins," directed by Neil Jordan, an Irishman. The film chronicles the life and death at age 31 of the man who masterminded the ruthless Irish Republican Army campaign to break Britain's hold over its obstreperous colony. Since its release last fall, the film has spent several weeks as No. 1 at the box office in Ireland. But less predictably, it is also doing well in England, where films with Irish nationalist themes usually do poorly.

Attacks have come from prominent British and Irish critics alike, among them Eoghan Harris, an Irish political columnist and screenwriter who, in the pages of Rupert Murdoch's conservative Irish edition of The Sunday Times, called Mr. Jordan's chronicle of the man widely regarded as a founder of 20th-century terrorism "bad history, bad morals and bad art."

"If our media and academics were not so numbed by nationalism, they would see the movie is racist,"



Liam Neeson in "Michael Collins"—Attacked in Ireland.

Mr. Harris wrote in November in one of his many attacks. The film's unmistakable political message, he added, was that all Brits were bad.

Critics warned that the film might complicate efforts to renew the 1994 cease-fire in Northern Ireland, which broke down last year just as several films with I.R.A. themes were about to be released. Others warned that painting Collins as a hero might encourage greater intransigence on the part of Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the I.R.A. It was an I.R.A. faction that ended the cease-fire that had brought Northern Ireland two years of calm.

The staunchly unionist London Daily Telegraph demanded last fall that the film's distributor, Warner Brothers, withdraw "Michael Collins." Warner refused, of course.

Even critics now concede that "Michael Collins" has not become a recruitment film for the I.R.A. Nor has it apparently changed many minds in either country.

Unlike Americans, Irish and English audiences have flocked to the film. The film has grossed just under \$10 million in the United States, a lackluster performance given a cast headed by Liam Neeson and Julia Roberts. Perhaps the movie fared poorly in America because, as noted by Michael Dwyer, a journalist with The Irish Times, it portrayed what James Joyce called "our dear, dirty Dublin," rather than the "stereotypical images that Americans, Irish-Americans in particular, lap up — the folksy, quaint Ireland with people singing, dancing, and drinking a lot."

By contrast, the film has so far made \$4.8 million in England and \$5.9 million in Ireland, surpassing

"Jurassic Park" as the most popular film ever released there. "There is no doubt that the controversy generated interest," said Nancy Carson, director of Warner's International Theatrical Distribution.

The film's popularity with British audiences is more difficult to understand. Mr. Harris, in an interview, attributed it to what he called a "sodomosexual streak" in the British, who increasingly relish "guilt trips" about England's colonial history. But Stephen Woolley, the film's producer, said it reflected a healthy desire among the British to learn about, and come to grips with, their past.

Several American movies that touch on sensitive political themes have been attacked well before they opened. One of those is "Evita," starring Madonna, the movie version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's hit musical. Directed by Alan Parker, who is English, with a budget of more than \$60 million, the film has caused a bitter debate in Argentina over whether the Material Girl is fit to play Eva Perón, the wife of Gen. Juan Domingo Perón, the populist strongman who dominated Argentine politics for nearly three decades. Eva Perón is, even in death, a national figure whom much of the nation adores. Opening on Christmas Day to mixed reviews in the United States, "Evita" is likely to become the "Michael Collins" of Argentina, attracting huge audiences and angry debate when it opens next month.

Meanwhile, a local, more patriotic film version of the saga, "Eva Perón," has already become a domestic "box office sensation," according to Variety. Starring Esther Goris, a popular actress in Argentina, as Evita, the film skirts over the more scandalous aspects of the First Lady's rise to power, concentrating instead on the last two years before her death, in 1952. Opening in Argentina on Oct. 24, partly to pre-empt Mr. Parker's extravaganza, the film drew an impressive 90,000 viewers in its opening week. It has been selected as Argentina's entry for the Oscar for best foreign-language film and has already earned \$300,000 in its first two months, according to Maria de la Paz Mariño, the executive producer.

Ms. Mariño said that although she had not yet seen the American film, Argentina owed the "Evita" film makers gratitude. "Now everyone

the world knows Evita, thanks in part to Alan Parker," she said.

Other Argentines have not been as charitable. When "Evita" was being filmed on location in Buenos Aires last January, hard-line Peronistas greeted Madonna with placards and graffiti that read: "Evita Lives! Madonna Out!" Several Congressional representatives presented resolutions calling for Madonna and Mr. Parker to be declared persona non grata. President Carlos Saul Menem, a Peronist, even told local newspapers that the musical was "a libelous interpretation of Evita's life," and that Madonna was "unsuitable" for the role. While Madonna tried to woo Argentine public opinion in an interview with a local gossip magazine, much of the good will she generated evaporated in November when, in diary excerpts published in Vanity Fair magazine, she called Argentina an "uncivilized" country with "no gyms and no decent food." Nor was President Menem thrilled, according to the Argentine press, by Madonna's description of him as a "charming" leader with "small feet" who "dyes his hair black" and who kept looking at her bra strap.

Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, said that controversy over political films was nothing new. President Charles de Gaulle of France, he noted, had banned "Paths of Glory," an American classic about a World War I mutiny within a French Army unit, starring Kirk Douglas and directed by Stanley Kubrick. "The King and I," the 1956 film rendition of the musical starring Yul Brynner and Deborah Kerr, has never been shown in Thailand, which is allergic to criticism of its kings. More recently, the military rulers of Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, succeeded in banning John Boorman's "Beyond Rangoon," which highlights the courage of the dissident and Nobel Prize winner Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

In some movies, American film makers have intentionally taken political sides, hoping to rally public support for or against a cause and knowing that their work will be banned abroad. For instance, Hollywood promoted the pro-Israeli film "Exodus," starring Paul Newman. But it is likely to be a long time before American directors cast an American film hero as Yasir Arafat on film.

John Lynch is Being Noticed

By MICHAEL DWYER

DUBLIN AT last year's Sundance Film Festival in Utah, one Australian film, "Shine," became a sensation in the Premiere section and had two distributors battling over it. Meanwhile, another Australian film, "Angel Baby," languished in the almost invisible World Cinema section.

"Angel Baby" did not get an American distributor at the festival and was proclaimed by Caryn James in The New York Times as "the Sundance film most in need of rescue."

It has been rescued indeed. The film, about two schizophrenics in love, opened in New York on Friday and has been gladly received by critics, many of whom heaped praise on the film's leading man, John Lynch. In addition, Mr. Lynch has appeared in a small part as Bobby Sands, the Irish Republican Army hunger striker, in "Some Mother's Son," which opened in the United States in December. He also stars as a single father in "Nothing Personal," a film opening in March and set during an uneasy cease-fire in Northern Ireland in 1975.

"John Lynch is a very intelligent actor who always brings a big commitment, a great intensity, to the part," says Jim Sheridan, who directed him in "In the Name of the Father" and was a co-writer and co-producer of "Some Mother's Son."

"John's honest, and you always believe him on screen," he says. "He's Ireland's best young actor."

In the intimate drama "Angel Baby," Mr. Lynch and Jacqueline McKenzie play a couple who meet at a psychiatric treatment center in Melbourne and fall in love. When the young woman becomes pregnant, the two decide to stop taking their antipsychotic medications. Then the doctors advise that the pregnancy is too risky for her and her child, and the lovers are faced with a battle that severely tests their relationship.

It is a tribute to the power of his performance in "Angel Baby" that when the film swept the 1995 Australian Film Awards, Mr. Lynch was also named best actor, an accolade generally reserved for Australians.

"I never expected to win that award," says the modest, quiet-spoken Mr. Lynch, sitting in the Melbourne Hotel here. "Winning it was a tremendous compliment. It was a tough film to do, very demanding, but with a lot of wit in it, too. I found the script extraordinary, very brave. There is such a stigma attached to schizophrenia. But my character



John Lynch in "Some Mother's Son."

wants a life like everybody else, and he feels he deserves it."

Michael Rymer, the writer and director of "Angel Baby," says he tested 30 or 40 talented young actors in Australia before casting Mr. Lynch.

"I needed an actor who was soft and vulnerable to play the lover," Mr. Rymer says, "but also someone who had the sense of darkness and pain to convey a person who has been through the wringer. After just two takes at John's audition, it was clear he was a very impressive actor. His ability to improvise and play the moments, his ability to use his imagination and access a very deep emotional reality, was undeniable."

Mr. Lynch, who is 35, was born in the small rural area of Corrintho outside Newry in Northern Ireland. The eldest of the family's five children, he became immersed in soccer as a schoolboy and was steered toward acting by Sean Hollywood, an English teacher. By the time he finished school, Mr. Lynch had decided to pursue acting as a career; he enrolled at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London.

His big break came much earlier than he could have expected.

In 1983, as he neared the end of his second year, he was invited to audition for Pat O'Connor's "Cal," a feature film about a young man reluctantly involved in the I.R.A. and the murder of a policeman. He read for Mr. O'Connor and a week later was invited back for a screen test with Helen Mirren, who would play the policeman's widow. (He was reunited with Ms. Mirren in "Some Mother's Son," in which she stars.) Four weeks later Mr. Lynch was offered the title role in "Cal."

"It was very daunting at first," he says of being catapulted into a leading role while still a drama student. "But I had great support from Pat O'Connor and all the cast, which made it easier for me."

He went to the Cannes film festival in 1984 and watched Ms. Mirren win the best-actress award for "Cal." "That was crazy, mad," he says. "I'd never been to a film festival before, and suddenly I was in this circus in my borrowed tux."

Mr. Lynch followed "Cal" with five years of work in the theater in London, including back-to-back, yearlong stints, first as Konstantin in "The Seagull" with Vanessa Redgrave, Jonathan Pryce and Natasha Richardson, then as Smike in the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of "Nicholas Nickleby."

More recently, he has been working on one film after another, among them "In the Name of the Father"; Agnieszka Holland's "Secret Garden"; John Sayles's "Secret of Roan Inish" (which also features his sister, Susan Lynch, who is an actress); Pen Densham's "Moll Flanders"; and two films directed by his off-screen partner, Mary McGuckian: the W.B. Yeats chamber piece "Words Upon the Window Pane" and "This Is the Sea," a romantic drama coming next summer that is set in Northern Ireland during the recent I.R.A. cease-fire.

For "Some Mother's Son," which was directed by Terry George, Mr. Lynch became almost unrecognizable. He wore latex to make Sands, a hunger striker and nationalist icon in Northern Ireland, look more gaunt. The film is set during the devastating 1981 hunger strikes in the Maze prison in Northern Ireland. Elected a member of Parliament on the 40th day of his hunger strike, Sands died 26 days later, the first of 10 I.R.A. prisoners to die on strike.

Even though his role involved working on the film for just eight or nine days, he says, the responsibilities were onerous.

"I was hugely apprehensive about the hunger-strike issue in the film," he says. "There's a great responsibility on film makers when dealing with a subject such as this."

In "Nothing Personal," he plays a Roman Catholic who, during the 1975 cease-fire in Northern Ireland, becomes caught up in violence when he finds himself in the wrong place at the wrong time. What appealed to Mr. Lynch about the character, he says, is that he is "this small guy who just wants to be in his own small world in his own small street."

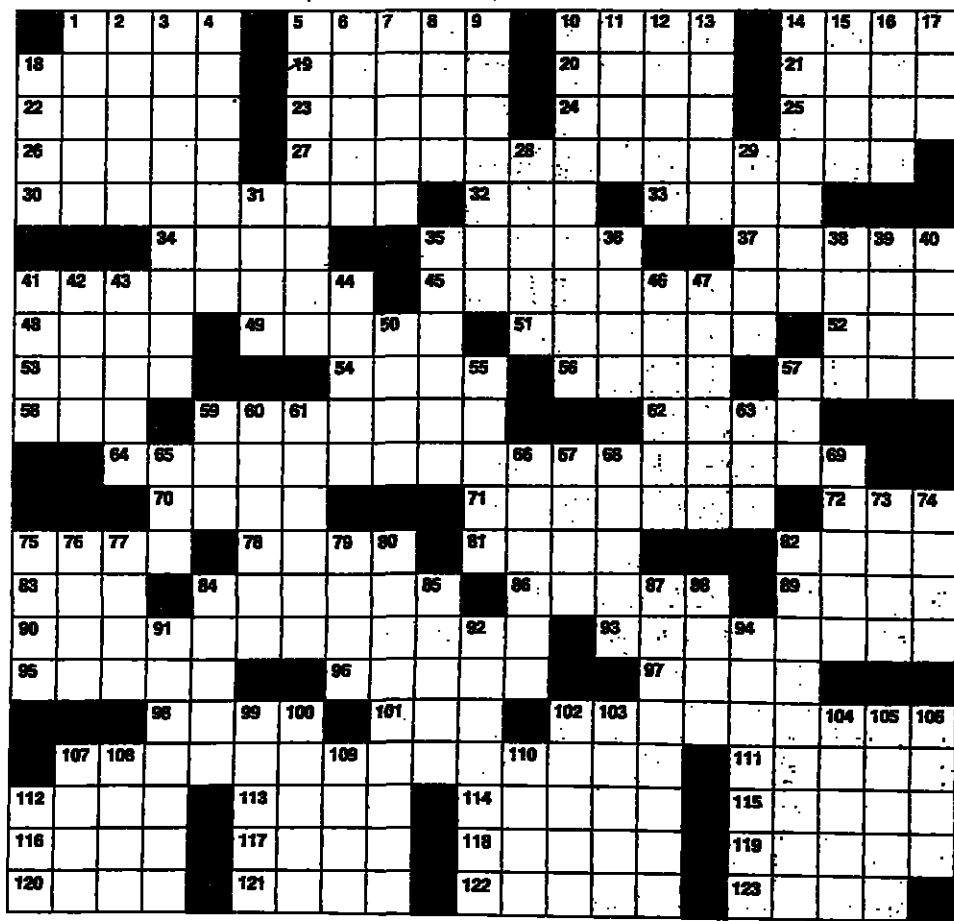
The character is tortured and the scenes were intense, he says, all the more so because they were shot in the final two days of filming.

ALCHEMY

BY SUZIE ELLIOTT / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Alternative to orchestra
- 5 Indispensables
- 10 Puts in stitches
- 14 1965 jazz album
- 18 Where Innsbruck is
- 19 Bubbling
- 20 One of the Baldwin brothers
- 21 Thwart
- 22 City NNE of Tampa
- 23 Jefferson's portrayal in a 1995 film
- 24 Java neighbor
- 25 Kind of collar
- 26 Mangies
- 27 Dickens novel transmuted
- 30 Bargain
- 32 Hale
- 33 Fein
- 34 Effort
- 35 Boxing titlist with 57 KO's
- 37 60's Secretary of the Interior
- 41 More to the point
- 45 U.S. ship transmuted
- 48 Prefix with -gram
- 49 Music hall
- 51 Opening word?
- 52 Believer, informally
- 53 City on the Rhine
- 54 Eagerly expectant
- 56 Bandar — Begawan (Brunei's capital)
- 57 Addition column
- 58 "L.A. Law" lawyer
- 59 Native of the Land of the Thunder Dragon
- 62 Write painstakingly
- 64 1955 play transmuted
- 70 Schoolmarm's hairdos
- 71 Spread ingredient
- 72 Ottoman authority
- 75 Bertors bet on them
- 78 "la guerre"
- 81 Billionth: Prefix
- 82 Drink on the drink
- 83 Fab competitor
- 84 Atheist Madalyn et al.
- 86 Rock's opposite, often
- 89 Fiend
- 90 50's TV catch phrase transmuted
- 93 Deer playmate, in song
- 95 Consummate
- 96 Idyllic spots
- 97 Twosome
- 98 C minor and others
- 101 "Xanadu" rock group
- 102 Water-skier's need
- 107 Cary Grant movie transmuted
- 111 German poet Heinrich
- 112 Astronomer's sighting
- 113 Lounge



DOWN

- 1 École
- 2 Clint's "co-star" Clyde, for one
- 3 Cable channel transmuted
- 4 Adaptable
- 5 Decreed
- 6 W.W. II menace
- 7 Crack
- 8 Small, reddish monkey
- 9 Santa's throw
- 10 Throws a monkey wrench into
- 11 Airline name drawn from Hosea
- 12 Joins
- 13 Some Asimov books
- 14 Eastern pooh-bah
- 15 Lounge
- 16 Produced fiction
- 17 — maison (Indoors): Fr.
- 18 No longer mint

- 28 Prepares for action
- 29 Not free
- 31 Passionate about
- 35 Masquerade mask
- 36 Rose bouquet
- 38 Deuce follower
- 39 — majesté
- 40 Amphibious vehicles, for short
- 41 Dutch tourist attraction
- 42 What's all the screaming about?
- 43 Holdover
- 44 Rope used to hang bandits
- 46 Town in many an oater
- 47 One of the Karamazov brothers
- 50 Jazz players are found here
- 55 Scaler's spike
- 57 "Well, well, well!" for short
- 59 Furnace measure, for short
- 60 El jefe
- 61 Open
- 63 Maj.'s superior
- 65 Sit-ups strengthen them
- 66 Cooper of "My Fair Lady"
- 67 Wine: Prefix
- 68 Irish lullaby syllables
- 69 1996 Coen brothers film
- 73 Trail mix

- 74 "The Night of the Hunter"
- 75 Soft drink brand
- 76 Lifeless
- 77 Singer Marvin
- 79 Incidental
- 80 Considerations pro and con
- 82 Blues singer transmuted
- 84 Eyeballed
- 85 Jim-dandy
- 87 Exits as an activating force
- 88 Case for an ophthalmologist
- 91 Chicago suburb
- 92 Pain reliever
- 94 "Lady Lindy"
- 99 Resort east of Sevastopol
- 100 Prior
- 102 Non-bear bear
- 103 Rowing team
- 104 Dorothy, for the Tin Man
- 105 Cordial flavoring
- 106 Addition column
- 107 Vanished
- 108 Where Hansel was headed
- 109 A penny short of a dime
- 110 Actor — Carroll
- 112 Drop off for a bit

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

| | | | |
|---------|--------------|------------|--------|
| AREA | SWAN | CONER | STAY |
| GLOB | SEWER | ALAND | THRU |
| WOP | REBANS | LIVIA | REIN |
| GREY | DIP | OVAIS | ELSE |
| ALS | BLVTHESPIRIT | ASTI | |
| NASSAU | SULT | ERA | LEAD |
| PRIC | SARTRE | ASTA | |
| TIDY | BAP | RUB | HANGER |
| BIT | BISSED | RILLARY | RCA |
| AERIE | BYN | SPOOKY | DALI |
| TERRE | ACDC | BOLE | CUNIL |
| PICK | ONHOLD | PIT | CONPH |
| PLAN | ALGOBERY | THE | ASA |
| ENLARGE | FYU | AAA | FEET |
| ESTER | ONSITE | TUTU | |
| FOGA | YVA | HIPS | VERBAL |
| NOYT | ENIGMA | IPHER | IRA |
| MOAR | ENROL | SEE | SARCY |
| ISSE | SEINO | COCKLESSES | |
| CHER | TACOS | ADLER | KERO |
| | STEVE | GERSE | STER |

Where there's smoke there's ire

In an age when smoking is often socially taboo, the newly formed Association for Smokers' Rights seeks to open a little dialogue. Larry Derfner reports

A recent newspaper ad read: "If you smoke and feel like a member of an oppressed minority. If you feel that your basic civil rights have been abused. Turning the smoking public into society's punching bag by force of law is not the answer!" The ad was taken out by an entity calling itself the "Association for Smokers' Rights."

Who would start such a campaign? With all the causes in the world to devote one's energies to, what sort of person would choose smokers' rights? No doubt some hard-bitten, retired longshoreman-type, somebody who's been smoking, coughing and wheezing away for the last half-century and is bothered that society doesn't think of him as a role model. A real bitter guy.

That's the image we've got — poor and dumb. Weaklings who want to quit but can't," says Eli Ismachovitch, puffing on a Camel Filter. Besides being a two-pack-a-day man, the champion of smokers' rights in Israel is a yuppie's yuppie, a smooth, handsome, 33-year-old business lawyer. He doesn't come on like he's got a chip on his shoulder, just the opposite. In the lobby of his ultra-chic office suite on the 28th floor of Tel Aviv's Diamond Tower is a sign that reads: "Thank You For Not Smoking." The same sign sits on the windowsill of his office, next to the purring, smoke-absorbing

"Mountain Breeze Air Filter" machine. There's a law in Israel against smoking in the workplace except in a specially designated out-of-the-way corner or room, and at Ismachovitch, Vilenko and Co., Ismachovitch's office is it.

He says that in the first two days after the ad appeared, he got 50 to 60 calls and faxes in support. "People asked me, 'Why are you doing this only now, why didn't you start it two years ago?'" he said. (Two years ago is about when the law against workplace smoking went into effect.) One rather exaggerated fax read: "I hope you will be able to do something for smokers, and prevent Israel from becoming like the US, where smokers can only smoke outside on the street, surrounded by glares of contempt."

It's hard to understand what drives Ismachovitch. He says he doesn't represent the tobacco companies — "I wish I did," he comments — or anybody else who would stand to benefit from an easing of Israel's anti-smoking laws. Ismachovitch's friends and family don't smoke. His business partner Ofer Vilenko — who suffers from asthma — was worried about going public with such an unpopular idea. "Why do we need this? It'll hurt our image," Vilenko argued. But Ismachovitch went ahead anyway.

Like all smokers, he's had to endure all the well-meaning nud-

niks telling him to give up his habit, informing him that it's bad for his health. "You're an intelligent fellow, you're not some shlepper, why do you smoke?" they demand. "It doesn't even bother me anymore," he says. "I just ignore them."

Ismachovitch, a bachelor, stresses that he's no proselytizer for smoking. "I don't want to revive the image of the Marlboro Man," he insists — he realizes it's an unhealthy habit. Neither does he want to give smokers free rein to indulge wherever they want, without any regard for the wishes of others. Inconsiderate smokers are not welcome in the Association for Smokers' Rights, he says, explaining that he just wants a little "dialogue" between smokers and non-smokers, a little "mutual



Inconsiderate smokers are not welcome in the Association for Smokers' Rights, according to its founder.

respect." For example, on the issue of cigarette taxes, the increase on which just raised the price of cigarettes 14%. "Don't use us as the milk cow of the country," Ismachovitch demands. "Why not raise taxes on alcohol and red meat? They're bad for your health too." And why, he

asks, can't there be separate smokers' corners in cinema lobbies and public buildings?

"Why do smokers have to suffer withdrawal symptoms when they're stuck in these places for long periods of time? This is the sort of issue the fledgling association intends to raise, he says.

Ismachovitch also wants the group's voice to be heard at Transport Ministry hearings into whether smokers on El Al flights damage the health of passengers in the non-smoking seats. He claims "there's no clear evidence that passive smoking is dangerous to one's health," and that even if it is, the

bad effects can be neutralized by separating smokers from non-smokers in public places.

At this point, in the view of anti-smoking activists, the Association for Smokers' Rights stops being a mere curiosity and becomes a purveyor of false, harmful information. Extrapolating from figures

collected by the World Health Organization and the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Israel Cancer Association estimates that 800 Israelis die each year from the effects of passive smoking. Non-smokers married to heavy smokers have 30 to 35% higher-than-normal incidence of lung cancer and 25% higher-than-normal incidence of heart disease. "It's impossible to really separate smokers from non-smokers in restaurants and most other public places — the smoke circulates," says Shosh Gan-Noy, head of information for the Cancer Association. The law is routinely flouted, and violators are never fined. "I have to depend on the good will of smokers," Gan-Noy said, insisting that if anybody here is oppressed, it is the people who have to breathe cigarette smoke that wafts through the air.

Amos Hausner, attorney for the Cancer Association and other anti-smoking organizations, says that Israel follows behind the West in its opposition to smoking. In 1970, 40% of Israelis smoked; now the figure is 26-27%, compared to 25% of Americans. When the law against workplace smoking passed here in 1994, an organization called the Institute for Workers' Health found in a survey that 90% of the population at large supported the law, as did 87% of smokers, Hausner noted.

He doesn't give Ismachovitch's new group much chance for success.

"An organization for smokers' rights was first founded in 1983 [when the law against smoking in public places was passed] by an engineer in Beersheba named Bar Kochba. In a very short time it disappeared," Hausner said. "It seems that most smokers are less interested in waving a banner for their rights and more interested in quitting the habit."

Doctors without supplies: Russia's emergency medical care in turmoil

Weapons extracted from patients are displayed like trophies in a doctors' lounge at Russia's biggest emergency hospital. Bullets, nails, a carving knife, and a switchblade that once was embedded in a neck gleam from a makeshift showcase. "We used to have a better collection, but policemen drop by from time to time and take them away," Dr. Sergei Polyakov tells a visitor at the huge Sklifosovsky hospital.

Russia's steep rise in violent crime since the Soviet era often evokes comparisons to the wild days of Chicago in the 1920s. But less noticed is the extra strain it has put on Russia's crumbling emergency medical services — a victim of the deterioration in the nation's health care system.

Dialing the "03" emergency telephone number is an unhappy gamble for many Russians, who must rely on a system often alarmingly lacking in equipment, medicine, and personnel.

The last line of defense is emergency-room doctors — badly paid, overworked, and often required to do heroic work under trying conditions. "I can't say if Russian doctors are the best, but we're forced to work more with our eyes, ears and hands," says Dr. Ryurik Noyevich, who also works at Sklifosovsky. Asked about the handicaps they work under, he shrugs: "Our conditions reflect our country's condition."

Troubles in the emergency medical care system are evident from the moment someone calls for help. Unlike President Boris Yeltsin, who is whisked off to elite Kremlin clinics when his heart acts up, ordinary people dialing "03" know the ambulance service or "skoraya pomoshch" — literally, fast help — often doesn't live up to its name.

Even the director of Moscow's main ambulance service, Dr. Igor Elkins, concedes the response rate — ambulances arrive within 20 minutes 86 percent of the time — could be better. He blames traffic jams, authorities' failure to punish drivers of vehicles that impede ambulances and a lack of computers, which are just now being installed. In the spartan dispatch center, 100 pink-uniformed women field emergency calls at bare desks, their scribbled notes then conveyed to co-workers who walk them across the long room to dispatchers. Stodgy white ambulance vans with red stripes ply the streets cautiously and often without sounding their sirens, their drivers seemingly resigned to a lack of the respect that emergency vehicles merit that emergency vehicles are full abroad. The Russian press is full of horror stories about patients who suffer or die while ambulances are stuck in traffic and of ambulance crews that take cigarette breaks before responding to urgent calls.

The situation is no better when victims arrive at hospitals in provincial Russia. Patients there often must supply their own med-



Troubles in the medical care system are evident from the moment someone calls for help. The ambulance service, literally translated as "fast help," often doesn't live up to its name. (AP)

icine, sleep in corridors and pay bribes for surgery — or maybe just to have sheets and bedpans changed. Even in suburban Moscow, one man reported being treated recently with a hardware drill and rusty pliers.

Those who are fortunate are taken to Sklifosovsky, which bills itself as the country's leading emergency care center and is a magnet for top doctors.

Dingy and gloomy, there is no chance it could be confused with the setting of the US television hit ER, set in a busy Chicago public hospital emergency room.

A walk through Sklifosovsky's dimly lit labyrinth reveals rundown conditions and a shortage of staff — patients outnumber them 3-to-1. Linoleum is faded and cracked; paint on the walls is chipped. Electronic equipment badly lags the West. And patients are often crowded together with no privacy. While doctors next door check the Internet for medical files from the US Library of Congress, 10 patients lie in a large open room serving as the intensive-care unit for trauma victims. A man lies naked by the entrance, hooked up to a catheter, as orderlies rush about. A heavily tattooed man nearby is unconscious. Another beefy man, with a shaven head and gold teeth, lies dazed and bleeding onto his pillow.

All three are crime victims. Russia's crime rate has more than doubled since the Soviet Union's breakup, and nowhere is it more evident than Moscow, where there were about 1,500 murders in 1996.

Doctors' base pay is so low, the equivalent of about \$100 a month, that most take on numerous extra shifts in order to roughly double their income. That means they may end up working 36 hours at a stretch. Those who haven't left for better-paying jobs cite a love for life-saving work, pride, or a desire to be part of a prestigious institute. They react with a mixture of envy and

amusement to American TV programs that show medical emergencies in seemingly cushy conditions.

"We watch *Rescue 911* and they'll show a knife in the heart as if it were the biggest event ever," says Dr. Kamil Yusuf, relaxing in a doctors' lounge at Sklifosovsky. "Sometimes we have a dozen in one shift." (AP)

LIBI - THE FUND FOR STRENGTHENING ISRAEL'S DEFENCE

Our Thanks to Libi Activists in Beersheba

At a gala reception, the LIBI Fund recently hosted the volunteers who organized a donations day in support of the fund, on Radio Darom. The donations day culminated in a festive happening at Ganei Yehonim.



From left to right: Mr. Yossi Reich, Managing Director of Ganei Yehonim, Mrs. Esther Nagid, Chairman, Beersheba Friends of the Libi Fund, Segen Adi Yazdi, Mrs. Vered Raz, Radio Darom Program Manager, Mr. David Yousof, Managing Director of Radio Darom, Mrs. Rachel Efrati, and Sgan Aluf Enrike Assif.

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EARTHLY CONCERNS

Harsh treatment of a frozen and fragile land

By DYORA BEN SHAUL

Although Argentinian scientists more or less managed to clean up an 80,000-liter spill of fuel oil in the Antarctic that was deposited more than two-and-a-half years ago, this does not mean that the problems of this benighted continent are over. There are still far more problems than solutions. Meanwhile, however, overall plans to legislate protective measures concerning the environment of Antarctica are still pretty much stalled.

In 1991, the 26 nations of the Antarctic Treaty adopted a first protocol that would impose stricter liabilities and restrictions on scientists, governments, tour operators and environmental groups, but so far only 10 nations have ratified the protocol, thus preventing its enactment.

According to the negotiations chairman Rudiger Wolfrum, an environmental lawyer at Heidelberg's Max Planck Institute, the new rulings would "compel operators to exercise care of the Antarctic environment by making them financially responsible for any damage they cause." Under these proposals anybody operating in Antarctica would be obliged to carry full insurance protection against environmental damages and they

would also be required to contribute to an environmental protection fund. This itself is a lofty aim but unless ratified by all the governments involved it does little to preserve this still partly pristine area, sometimes called the "last continent."

One of the major problems is that the people most concerned about these measures are not so much the governments themselves but the private companies operating tourist cruises to the area. Currently, some 10,000 to 12,000 persons a year visit Antarctica but this number is expected to increase dramatically in the near future and it is these tourists who are hardest to control during their visit. While scientific stations, environmental study camps and government bases have a vested interest in obeying

the laws for protection of the environment because they themselves are held responsible, in the case of the tourists only the carrier bears this responsibility and the individual tourist shares nothing of this burden. In some cases this is reflected in carelessness that causes serious damage to the fragile ecosystem of this frozen wilderness.

But if governments do ratify these new protective measures, the tour companies have a loophole that will make it impossible to force them to rectify any damage caused by their passengers. They can simply register their vessels in another country that is not a signatory of the Antarctic Treaty, in which case they need not concern themselves with expensive environmental damage insurance or contributions to a

fund. In fact many of the 60 cruise ships visiting Antarctica already sail under flags of convenience.

According to a study published by the Scott Polar Research Institute of Cambridge, 22 cruise ships were registered in Liberia, 13 in the Bahamas and three in Panama.

There were also vessels from non-signatory nations including Russia and Poland. Although some of the signatories recommended barring uninsured ships from entering the harbors, the legal arm of the major organizations says it cannot see any legal means of enforcing such an embargo. So in the meantime the tour operators do as they please and their passengers cause the annual death of many examples of Antarctic wildlife including seals and rare birds.

book department

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BUSINESS

in brief

Purchasing Managers' Index declines

The Purchasing Managers' Index for December has decreased to 46.7 percent after having stabilized in the previous month, Dun and Bradstreet (DB) and the Association of Purchasing Managers announced yesterday.

The index is calculated according to 10 proportionate components. A result above 50% indicates an improvement in performance while a result below that barrier reflects a decline in performance compared with the previous month.

The decrease in the December index reflects a drop in productivity, local market sales, supply of raw material and employment. The companies said the drop in supply of raw materials, 30.9% compared with 42.6%, was due to lower market demand.

Galit Lipkis Beck

Train usage up 13%

More than 5,460,000 people used Israel's trains during 1996, according to the Ports and Railways Authority. This is a 13 percent increase over 1995. In December there were 530,000 passengers, 29% more than in the same month in 1995. The main increases during the year were on the Tel Aviv-Rehovot line (up 63%). Since its reopening in October, some 11,000 passengers have used the Tel Aviv-Ashtod route each month. The authority hopes a new line from Tel Aviv to Beersheba will be operational later this year.

David Harris

Kibbutzim industrial exports up 3.5% in 1996

Industrial exports from kibbutzim totaled \$1.07 billion last year, according to the Kibbutzim Industries Association, up 3.5 percent over the 1995 figure. The kibbutzim account for 8% of industrial exports (excluding diamonds). The number of exporting kibbutz factories fell from 315 to 306 last year.

David Harris

IAI contract with BA begins functioning

A contract between British Airways (BA) and Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) began functioning yesterday when a BA Boeing 757 arrived in Israel for maintenance work. According to IAI manager Nira Dror, the contract, which provides for IAI to do the maintenance on an unspecified number of BA aircraft, was signed after officials of the British company undertook an exhaustive examination of IAI's capacity to maintain the BA standards.

Haim Shapiro

Trans-Israel Highway bidders visit

Senior members of the Derech Eretz consortium bidding to build the central section of the Trans-Israel Highway were in Israel last week for the signing of the free trade agreement between Canada and Israel.

Canadian Highway Investment Corporation (a toll highway specialist) president John Beck was joined here by other consortium members, representing Africa Israel and Denya Cebus, SGE and Hughes Aircraft Systems International.

David Harris

Adanim, Isracard sign credit-card agreement

Adanim Mortgage Bank has signed an agreement with Isracard whereby monthly mortgage payments can be made via Mastercard business, Goldmaster and Mastercard credit cards. This is the first time a local bank is willing to accept mortgage payments of this kind. According to the agreement, mortgage holders' bank accounts will be charged on the 12th of the month instead of the first.

Galit Lipkis Beck

Wertheimer: Privatization process must placate workers

By DAVID HARRIS

The privatization process must be implemented cautiously so as not to worry the work force, urged Iscar Ltd. chairman Stief Wertheimer, this weekend. "Alternative work must be found for those who'll lose their jobs," he told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Wertheimer's comments came after the Prime Minister's Office announced sketchy details of the companies it hopes to sell during its term in office.

The privatization, program should have been implemented already two years ago, according to Manufacturers Association president Dan Propper.

Had this been done, at the time when the economy was at a stage of rapid growth, all those losing their jobs would have been easily

absorbed.

Now, with the economy slowing down, and possibly heading towards recession, Propper maintains there could be problems for the work force.

"There could be a large increase in unemployment," Propper said. "But the privatization process must not be stopped because of this worry."

The solution, according to Propper, is for the Bank of Israel to change its monetary policy, thereby causing an increase in economic growth, which in turn would lead to heightened job creation.

Propper urged the Histadrut not to take measures against the program. The Histadrut itself has just undergone a major restructuring program including laying off a large portion of its staff.

The government must sit with employers and workers to decide on the privatization method that will be of benefit to the most people, said Histadrut Institute of Social and Economic Research director Leah Achdut.

The international experience, such as in Britain, New Zealand and even Japan is that jobs are lost, said Achdut.

Here too, some 1,400 were made redundant following the sale of Shekem Ltd. to Elco Holdings Ltd.

Sale of shares to the work force, the options program or any other form of sale that will involve many people in a company's decision-making processes should be chosen, added Achdut.

Concern over unemployment as a result of privatization is being played down in government circles.

Communications Minister Limor Livnat argues that the evidence to date in the cellular telephone industry, is that there has been a substantial increase in jobs created with the entry of two private companies, a trend likely to be intensified with the tender for a third company to be advertised by the middle of the year.

Wertheimer also said he has no intention of buying any of the state-owned companies, but said he would be happy to help in any advisory capacity. "I have no personal interests, I just want to see a free state."

Propper, too, said since his consortium withdrew from its Bank Hapoalim privatization tender, he has not considered purchasing any other state assets. "I have no immediate plans," he said.

Africa Israel to appoint new execs

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

Africa Israel is expected to announce the appointment of eight new people to its senior management and board of directors Wednesday, when parent company Bank Leumi will officially transfer control of the holding company to businessman Lev Levyev.

Several months ago diamond merchant Levyev won a tender to purchase a 54 percent controlling stake in Africa Israel (excluding the insurance holdings) for \$186m. Africa Israel is one of the country's leading investment companies engaged in real estate, hotels and tourism, insurance, industry and trade.

It is estimated that Levyev will be appointed acting chairman of the board instead of Izzy Tapuchi, who submitted his resignation at the end of last week. At a later stage, Levyev is expected to appoint a full-time active chairman.

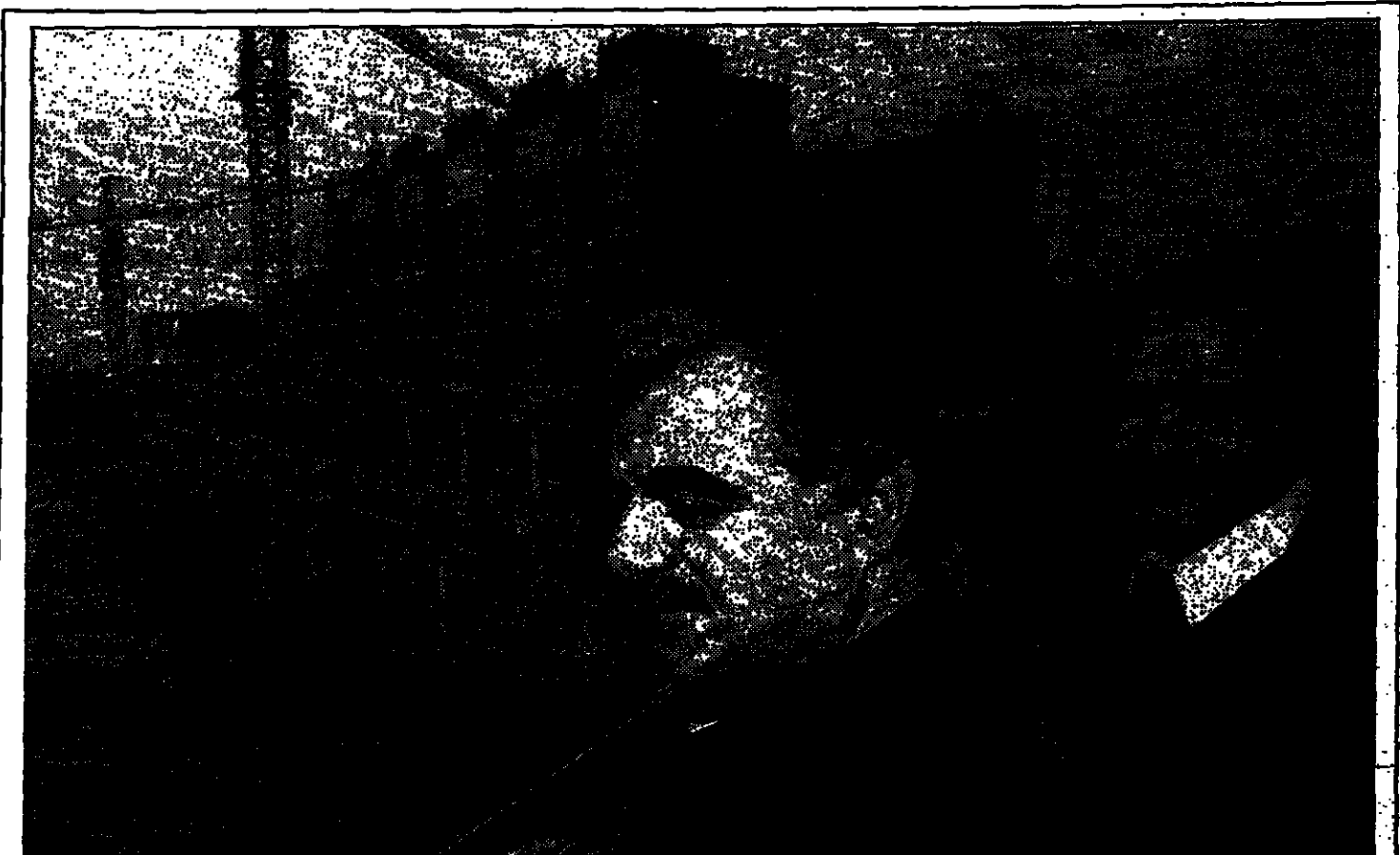
Tapuchi, who was appointed to the position only four months ago, is considered a close associate of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. His appointment, which surprised the business community, led to the resignation of one of Bank Leumi's directors who claimed the appointment was politically motivated.

According to local newspaper reports Tapuchi was dismissed from his position.

Tapuchi denied the accusations, saying Bank Leumi senior officials are spreading rumors against him in fear that he will be appointed chairman of the bank. According to *Globe* Tapuchi will be appointed chairman of Bank Hapoalim.

In his letter of resignation, Tapuchi said he achieved the goals he set himself, mainly completion of the privatization process including the spin-off of Africa Israel's insurance holdings and sale of Africa Israel.

Avigdor Kaplan, former general manager of Kupat Holim Clalit will be appointed general manager of Africa Israel. Levyev and Kaplan completed negotiations yesterday. Kaplan will take over from Mordechai Meir, who has been serving as acting general manager since last September following Shlomo Gofman's resignation.



Beirut reconstruction

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri (left) stands at the construction site of the Beirut public hospital yesterday.

(Reuters)

Turkey wants more arms deals with Israel

By STEVE RODAN

Turkey wants Israeli cooperation in Ankara's large-scale

defense programs in tanks and gunboats to offset European and American objections to arms sales, a senior Turkish official said

yesterday.

Gen. (ret.) Siki Orun, technical adviser to the Turkish Armed Forces Foundation, said Turkey needs Israeli contractors to fulfill its \$150 billion plan over the next 25 years to modernize the military. This includes producing new battle tanks, helicopters, jets and ships.

"This year most of the countries are decreasing military budgets," Orun told *The Jerusalem Post*, "but not Turkey. It has increased its military budget by 2-3 percent, from 9% to 11% of the government budget."

Orun acknowledged that European countries and the US have hesitated selling weapons to Ankara. Earlier this month, Belgium canceled a weapons sale, following a Norwegian arms embargo on Turkey. The US State Department has been hesitating to grant an export license for the AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopters because of congressional concerns of human rights violations connected to Turkey's campaign against separatist Kurds.

"If Belgium does not give us the weapons, we'll buy it some place else," Orun said. "These types of developments are to the benefit of Israel."

Orun will be conducting meetings today and tomorrow in his effort to recruit Israeli companies to participate in Turkey's defense industry and civil aviation fair, called IDEF, in September. The fair is sponsored by the government defense holding company Turkish Armed Forces Foundation.

The Turkish general said his government will examine the Merkava tank as part of its program to produce 800 battle tanks in a deal estimated at \$3.2 billion. The Turks plan to begin co-production of a new tank after the year 2000, preferring this to outright acquisition.

Other countries that will be approached as a potential contractor include the US, South Korea, Germany, Britain and France.

Another area, Orun said, that Israel can participate in is that of patrol and assault boats. Turkey is planning on acquiring 45 frigates, patrol ships and missile boats in its modernization program.

February monetary policy to be announced today

Central bank's market intervention this year, \$750m.

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The Bank of Israel will announce the base interest rates for February at 4:30 this afternoon.

Throughout the last few months, central bank staff have taken a cautious line, despite falling inflation and the passage of a relatively trimmed budget. The tight monetary policy is likely to remain in place through the early months of the year, according to senior Bank of Israel officials.

Bankers said yesterday they expected a minimal rate decrease of some 25 basis points, a change that would have virtually no impact on an increasingly pressured shekel exchange rate.

The Bank of Israel has sold in money markets some \$750 million worth of shekels since the beginning of January, senior bankers estimate. The central bank's intervention came in the framework of

its exchange-rate policy which blocks the shekel from either appreciating or depreciating by more than 7 percent in relation to a diagonal line which reflects, at every given date, expected inflation in a weighted basket of leading currencies.

Last week, the shekel, though hitting a new low of 3.3 to the dollar, failed to depreciate against the US currency in tandem with the sharp fluctuations experienced during the same period by the Japanese yen, the Deutschmark, and other major currencies.

In recent weeks the business sector and government officials have placed pressure on Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frankel to cut interest rates by at least 1%.

But the central bank is not expected to cut rates substantially,

if at all, until it sees how the cut in the state budget will influence spending. Only then, will it implement a relatively substantial cut, causing a real devaluation.

"The Bank of Israel is now taking a view of carefully watching and monitoring the adherence of the government to the budget, said Zvi Furman executive vice president in charge of trading room activities at Bank Hapoalim. Since the start of the year, he said, the money supply has increased at a higher rate than the quantity of foreign currency sales.

"This could point out that there could be some problem with the government's adherence to the budget," said Furman. According to him, a reduction in rates of less than 0.5% will not have an impact on the market.

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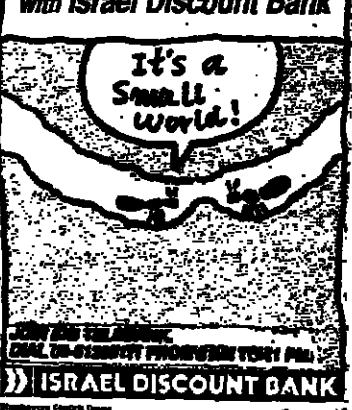
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|---------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| U.S. dollar (\$250,000) | 4.750 | 5.000 | 5.275 |
| Pound sterling (£100,000) | 3.875 | 4.000 | 4.250 |
| German mark (DM 200,000) | 1.625 | 1.625 | 2.125 |
| Swiss franc (SF 200,000) | 0.825 | 0.750 | 1.000 |
| Yen (10 million yen) | | | |

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (24.1.97)

| | CHECKS AND TRANSFERS | | BANKNOTES | | Rep. |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------|-----------|------|--------|
| | Buy | Sell | Buy | Sell | |
| Currency basket | 3.5836 | 3.6415 | | | 3.6240 |
| U.S. dollar | 3.2825 | 3.3152 | 3.20 | 3.27 | 3.3000 |
| German mark | 1.9993 | 2.0316 | 1.95 | 2.00 | |
| Pound sterling | 5.3257 | 5.4118 | 5.23 | 5.48 | 5.3856 |
| French franc | 0.6926 | 0.7022 | 0.68 | 0.69 | 0.6992 |
| Japanese yen (100) | 2.7432 | 2.7875 | 2.69 | 2.83 | 2.7699 |
| Dutch florin | 1.7759 | 1.8087 | 1.74 | 1.84 | 1.8000 |
| Swiss franc | 2.3071 | 2.3444 | 2.28 | 2.36 | 2.3319 |
| Swedish krona | 0.4544 | 0.4618 | 0.44 | 0.47 | 0.4568 |
| Norwegian krone | 0.4833 | 0.5044 | 0.48 | 0.52 | 0.5027 |
| Denish krone | 0.4833 | 0.5044 | 0.48 | 0.52 | 0.5027 |
| Finland mark | 0.6741 | 0.6950 | 0.66 | 0.70 | 0.6778 |
| Canadian dollar | 2.4281 | 2.4648 | 2.38 | 2.45 | 2.4558 |
| Australian dollar | 2.2335 | 2.2643 | 2.18 | 2.26 | 2.2504 |
| S. African rand | 0.7052 | 0.7176 | 0.64 | 0.72 | 0.7148 |
| Belgian franc (10) | 0.9887 | 1.0044 | 0.95 | 1.00 | 0.9807 |
| Austrian schilling (10) | 2.8418 | 2.8877 | 2.79 | 2.93 | 2.8233 |
| Italian lira (1000) | 2.0490 | 2.0821 | 2.01 | 2.12 | 2.0532 |
| Jordanian dinar | 4.6400 | 4.8500 | 4.54 | 4.86 | 4.6448 |
| Egyptian pound | 0.8300 | 1.0100 | 0.83 | 1.01 | 1.0148 |
| Irish punt | 3.5773 | 3.6188 | 3.54 | 3.60 | 3.5988 |
| Spanish peseta (100) | 2.3748 | 2.4132 | 2.35 | 2.40 | 2.3987 |

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel

SOURCE: BANKLEUMI

SPORTS

in brief

Blackhawks' Belfour traded to San Jose

Ed Belfour, one of the best goaltenders in Chicago Blackhawks' history, was traded on Saturday to the San Jose Sharks. Chicago general manager Bob Pulford called the swap "one of the most difficult trades I've had to make."

Arriving from San Jose are three players - goalie Chris Terreri, wing Ulf Dahlen and defenseman Michal Sykora - as well as a conditional 1998 second-round draft pick. AP

Report: Canseco returning to Oakland

Jose Canseco, who asked to be traded after the Boston Red Sox fired friend and manager Kevin Kennedy, will be sent back to his old team, the Oakland Athletics, it was reported in the *The Boston Globe* on Saturday. The Red Sox are expected to get right-handed sinkerballer John Wasdin. AP

Shula, Mara, Haynes, Webster elected to Hall

Don Shula, the winningest coach in NFL history, and Wellington Mara, who has spent 60 years as an executive in the league, were elected Saturday to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Joining them were cornerback Mike Haynes, who played 14 seasons for the New England Patriots and Los Angeles Raiders, and center Mike Webster, who played 17 seasons, almost all of them with the Pittsburgh Steelers. AP

Stewart keeps England alive

AUCKLAND (Reuters) - A near double century by wicket-keeper Alec Stewart and a return to form by skipper Mike Atherton ensured England's hopes were kept alive in its first Test match against New Zealand yesterday.

By the close of the third day the Test was evenly balanced, with England at 366 for six in reply to New Zealand's first innings total of 390. Stewart started this morning on 67 and hardly put a foot wrong on his way to 173. He drove impressively and was quick to punish anything short.

New Zealand First Innings 390
England First Innings (overnight 123-1)
N.Knight bowled 5
M.Atherton c and b Patel 83
A.Stewart c and b Patel 173
N.Hussein c Fleming b Patel 8
G.Thorpe not out 57
J.Crawley run out 14
C.White bowled 16
D.Cook not out 16
Extras (b-1, lb-2, w-1) 10
Total (for six wickets) 390
Fall: 1-18, 2-20, 3-22, 4-30, 5-38, 6-39.
To bat: D.Gough, R.Fitt, A.Muhead.
Bowling: D.Morrison 16-4-65-0 (nb-2), S.Dool 30-8-82 (w-1), C.Caines 17-2-66-0, N.Jessie 11-3-31-0, V.Aughan 19-4-11-1, D.Patel 33-8-77-2.

NHL SCOREBOARD

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA | |
| Philadelphia | 27 | 14 | 7 | 81 | 152 | 120 |
| Florida | 24 | 14 | 10 | 58 | 138 | 113 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 25 | 19 | 7 | 57 | 177 | 143 |
| New Jersey | 24 | 17 | 5 | 53 | 121 | 115 |
| Washington | 20 | 23 | 5 | 45 | 129 | 133 |
| Tampa Bay | 18 | 22 | 6 | 42 | 133 | 144 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 16 | 23 | 9 | 41 | 133 | 142 |
| Northwest Division | | | | | | |
| Pittsburgh | 26 | 17 | 5 | 57 | 178 | 149 |
| Buffalo | 26 | 19 | 5 | 55 | 141 | 131 |
| Hartford | 25 | 21 | 7 | 47 | 140 | 152 |
| Montreal | 18 | 23 | 8 | 44 | 155 | 172 |
| Boston | 18 | 24 | 6 | 42 | 140 | 170 |
| Ottawa | 14 | 22 | 9 | 37 | 122 | 134 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA | |
|------------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Dallas | 27 | 17 | 4 | 58 | 143 | 117 |
| St. Louis | 22 | 16 | 9 | 53 | 144 | 108 |
| St. Louis | 23 | 22 | 4 | 50 | 149 | 155 |
| Phoenix | 21 | 23 | 4 | 46 | 135 | 153 |
| Chicago | 17 | 26 | 8 | 42 | 128 | 138 |
| Toronto | 19 | 30 | 38 | 147 | 171 | |
| Pacific Division | | | | | | |
| Colorado | 29 | 12 | 8 | 65 | 165 | 115 |
| Edmonton | 22 | 22 | 5 | 49 | 157 | 149 |
| Vancouver | 22 | 23 | 2 | 46 | 150 | 158 |
| Anaheim | 18 | 23 | 2 | 42 | 133 | 143 |
| Calgary | 17 | 26 | 6 | 40 | 119 | 142 |
| Los Angeles | 17 | 25 | 6 | 40 | 129 | 162 |
| San Jose | 17 | 24 | 5 | 39 | 121 | 148 |

SATURDAY'S RESULTS:

St. Louis 8, Montreal 1
Boston 4, Colorado 1
N.Y. Rangers 7, Pittsburgh 4
Detroit 4, Philadelphia 1
Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Islanders 3, Chicago 2
Hartford 5, Buffalo 1
Dallas 5, Toronto 1
Anaheim 2, Los Angeles 2, tie
Phoenix 4, Vancouver 0

NBA SCOREBOARD

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Miami | 30 | 11 | .732 | - |
| New York | 29 | 13 | .690 | 1 1/2 |
| Washington | 21 | 21 | .500 | 9 1/2 |
| Orlando | 19 | 19 | .500 | 9 1/2 |
| New Jersey | 11 | 29 | .275 | 18 1/2 |
| Boston | 9 | 30 | .231 | 20 |
| Philadelphia | 9 | 33 | .214 | 21 1/2 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| Chicago | 37 | 5 | .881 | - |
| Detroit | 30 | 11 | .732 | 6 1/2 |
| Atlanta | 28 | 12 | .700 | 8 |
| Charlotte | 24 | 18 | .571 | 13 |
| Cleveland | 23 | 18 | .561 | 13 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 20 | 21 | .488 | 18 1/2 |
| Indiana | 19 | 21 | .475 | 17 |
| Toronto | 14 | 27 | .341 | 22 1/2 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| W | L | Pct | GB | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| Houston | 32 | 11 | .744 | - |
| Utah | 29 | 13 | .690 | 2 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 19 | 23 | .452 | 12 1/2 |
| Dallas | 14 | 26 | .350 | 16 1/2 |
| Denver | 13 | 30 | .302 | 19 |
| San Antonio | 11 | 28 | .282 | 19 |
| Vancouver | 8 | 36 | .182 | 24 1/2 |
| Pacific Division | | | | |
| Seattle | 30 | 12 | .714 | - |
| LA Lakers | 30 | 12 | .714 | - |
| Portland | 25 | 18 | .581 | 5 1/2 |
| Sacramento | 18 | 25 | .419 | 12 1/2 |
| LA Clippers | 18 | 24 | .430 | 13 |
| Golden State | 16 | 25 | .390 | 13 1/2 |
| Phoenix | 15 | 27 | .357 | 15 |

SATURDAY'S RESULTS:

Milwaukee 88, Indiana 86
Chicago 110, Toronto 98
Atlanta 95, Boston 90
Cleveland 106, Charlotte 73
Detroit 104, Philadelphia 95
Washington 113, Sacramento 105
Dallas 92, New Jersey 81
Utah 105, Houston 100 (OT)
Portland 101, Minnesota 94
Denver 83, Vancouver 82

F.A. Cup fifth round draw

Draw for the fifth round of the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup made yesterday. Birmingham v Peterborough or Wrexham, Leicester v Chelsea, Manchester United or Wimbledon v Queens Park Rangers, Bolton or Chesterfield v Nottingham Forest, Bradford v Sheffield Wednesday, Manchester City or West Ham v Middlesbrough, Arsenal or Leeds v Portsmouth, Derby v Blackburn or Coventry or Woking. Ties to be played on February 18 or 19.

Sampras tops Down Under

World No. 1 shuts down Spain's Moya in three sets

MELBOURNE (AP) - Pete Sampras, threatened only by racket strings popping in suffocating heat, sliced, diced and slammed young Carlos Moya in straight sets yesterday to capture a second Australian Open title and ninth major championship.

Sampras' 6-2, 6-3, 6-3 victory in 89 minutes over the 20-year-old surprise from Spain - the most one-sided Australian final in eight years - separated the No. 1 American from all but one of the greats of the open era.

Only Bjorn Borg, with 11 Grand Slam titles, has more majors than Sampras since the start of open tennis in 1968. Sampras had been tied at eight with Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl. Roy Emerson leads the all-time men's list with 12 majors, Rod Laver won 11 - only five in open play - and Bill Tilden captured 10 in the 1920s and '30s.

"That's how you base your career, on Grand Slam titles," Sampras said. "I put pressure on myself to do well in them. To have won one is a great start to the year."

Sampras served 12 aces to Moya's two, but it wasn't sheer power that earned him this title.

With the temperature 90 degrees in the shade and well over 100 degrees on court, Sampras sacrificed speed for placement as he kept the unseeded Moya guessing where the ball was going next.

Unlike earlier matches this tournament and in the U.S. Open he won last year, Sampras coped easily with the heat this time. He seemed to be playing so effortlessly that the crowd and Moya were lulled into watching him as if expecting winner after winner. Sampras obliged with 38 winners - 11 on volleys - while the baseline-hugging Moya managed only 13 winners and no volleys.

"Pete, we want a fourth set!" a spectator yelled after Sampras took a 3-1 lead on his serve in the third set.

Sampras responded with a forehand drop shot winner on the next point.

"This is the toughest major I've won, physically, with the heat and the heavy balls," said Sampras, who had to ice down his aching right arm after every match and practice. "The balls are not favorable to my game. It's tough to put

angles and kick instead of just brute power.

"He didn't let me play like I'm used to playing," Moya said. "He has a good serve and forehand, and I didn't feel comfortable at any moment of the match. I was not nervous. I was feeling the same thing like before any match."

"The best thing is to meet him in the first or second round. The final is not easy."

Sampras exploited the weakness he found in Moya's two-fisted backhand. Though Moya had been able to get away with that chink in previous matches, winning on the strength of his top spin forehand and all-court craft, he found himself on the defensive too often and unable to go to the net.

Asked what the biggest thing he learned in the match, Moya said with a smile: "Who's the number one."

Sampras broke him for a 3-1 lead at the start, broke him again to finish off the 23-minute first set, and from then on the match was devoid of drama.

There wasn't even a deuce game until the seventh game of the second set. The third set was a little closer, and a little more exciting, but not much.



SO CLOSE - England captain Mike Atherton displays his dismay after just missing a century yesterday. (Reuters)

Forest, Chelsea score upsets

LONDON (Reuters) - Two goals in five minutes by Ian Woan enabled Nottingham Forest to rally and beat Newcastle 2-1 in the English F.A. Cup fourth round yesterday.

Newcastle's Les Ferdinand headed home a John Beresford cross in the 60th minute.

Forest equalized in the 76th minute when a long range shot by Woan was deflected past Newcastle keeper Shaka Hislop by Beresford.

Four minutes later Beresford miskicked a clearance and Woan pounced to hammer the ball into the top corner from 25 meters.

Chelsea 4, Liverpool 2 at half-time.

Liverpool led with goals from Robbie Fowler after ten minutes and Stan Collymore 11 minutes later.

Gianluca Vialli had two goals for Chelsea in the fightback. Mark Hughes and Gianfranco Zola each scored one.



HEADS UP - Newcastle's Robert Lee (right) watches the ball with Nottingham Forest's Des Lytle yesterday. (Reuters)

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General

PERSONAL

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Labor MK Yossi Beilin (left) and Likud MK Michael Eitan (second from right) present their proposal to President Ezer Weizman yesterday. (Brian Hender)

Highlights of Beilin-Eitan final agreement position paper

Members of Knesset from the Likud-Gesher-Tsomet faction and from the Labor faction came together with the common objective of clarifying the areas of agreement and disagreement between them regarding the future negotiations with the Palestinians on a permanent settlement. Following a series of discussions and clarifications they have arrived at the conclusion that it is necessary to reach a national consensus on the basis of the following three principles:

A. It is necessary to continue the dialogue with the Palestinian representatives and to pursue exhaustively every opportunity to achieve a permanent agreement with them. In the framework of such an agreement it is necessary to permit the establishment of a Palestinian entity whose status will be determined in negotiations between the parties and the limits on the sovereignty of which will be discussed in the following sections.

B. Under conditions of peace and following the achievement of an agreement on the issue of the permanent settlement, the State of Israel must preserve its ability to prevent every attack or risk of an attack on its territorial integrity, the safety of its citizens and their property and its vital interest in Israel and in the world.

C. No agreement signed by the Israeli government can include a commitment to uproot Jewish set-

tlements in the Western Land of Israel nor will any agreement compromise the rights of the residents to keep their Israeli citizenship and their ties as individuals and as a community with the State of Israel.

• There will be no return to the 1967 borders.

• The Palestinian entity will be demilitarized and it will have no army.

• No foreign army may be stationed with the boundaries of the Palestinian entity.

• Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, with its existing municipal borders, will be a single, unified city within sovereign Israel.

• Within the framework of the municipal government the Palestinian residents of Arab neighborhoods in Jerusalem will receive a status that will allow them to share in the responsibility of the administration of their lives in the city.

• The right of the State of Israel to prevent the entry of Palestinian refugees into its sovereign territory will be recognized.

• An international organization will be founded, in which Israel will play an important role, with the goal of financing any carrying out projects for compensation and rehabilitation of the refugees in their places. The organization will also address Israeli claims for reparations for Jewish refugees from Arab countries.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Gov't: PA Charter must be amended

By EVELYN GORDON

The Palestinian Authority's failure to amend the PLO Covenant is a gross violation of the Oslo Accords, the government declared yesterday in an official statement by the Government Press Office.

According to the Prime Minister's Office, the statement was put out in response to the American "note for the record" accompanying the Hebron agreement, which detailed unfulfilled Israeli and Palestinian commitments. Since the topics listed in this note are expected to be major topics for negotiation in the coming months, the government considered it important to begin an information campaign on how the PA has violated its commitments in these areas and why rectification of these violations is crucial. Such a campaign is especially necessary with respect to the

covenant, since much of the world - including the previous Labor government - accepted PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's claim that the covenant was in fact changed last April.

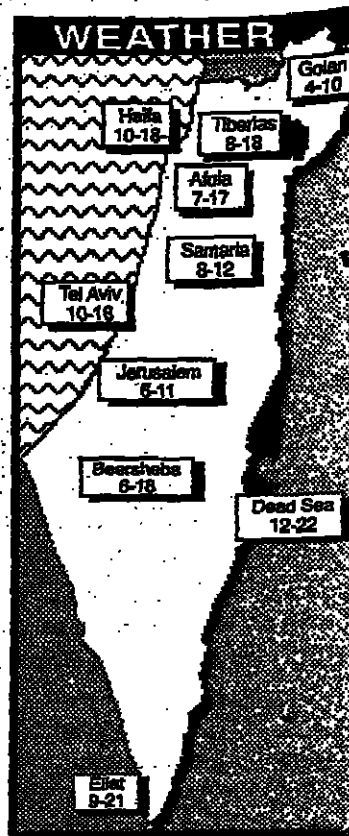
The statement was prepared before Arafat's weekend interviews in Paris, in which he said he would not amend the charter until Israel adopts a constitution, according to an official in the Prime Minister's Office.

In its five-page statement, the GPO noted that amending the covenant to eliminate the numerous articles calling for Israel's destruction was the first promise Arafat made to then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, in the famous exchange of letters in September 1993. Two years later, in the September 1995 Interim Agreement, a deadline was finally attached to this promise: The covenant was to be amended no later than two months after the

inauguration of the Palestinian Council, or May 7, 1996.

On April 24, 1996, the Palestine National Council approved a resolution to "amend the National Charter by cancelling the articles that are contrary to the letters exchanged between the PLO and the government of Israel on September 9 and 10, 1993," the GPO noted. It also authorized establishment of a legal subcommittee to "redraft the National Charter."

However, the GPO said, the resolution to amend the charter has no validity under internationally recognized legal principles, because it did not specify which articles of the covenant were amended. Amendments to a legal document are only legally valid if they are properly approved by an authorized body which knows exactly what the changes in question are, the GPO said.



AROUND THE WORLD

| | Low | High | Notes |
|--------------|-----|------|-------|
| Buenos Aires | 21 | 70 | 34 |
| Geneva | 12 | 36 | 64 |
| Hong Kong | 12 | 24 | 76 |
| London | 03 | 27 | 81 |
| Los Angeles | 12 | 54 | 103 |
| Moscow | -10 | 14 | 57 |
| Paris | 03 | 27 | 81 |

Albright pledges to work to achieve Israeli-Syrian pact

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Madeleine Albright pledged yesterday to work to achieve an Israeli-Syrian agreement but signaled that the parties had a bit to prove to her first.

Asked on NBC's *Meet the Press* whether she would follow Warren Christopher's path and visit Syria more than 20 times over four years, Albright said her travel plans "will depend upon whether it is right for me to go there."

"It is important for us to make sure this moves forward, but we cannot be more serious about having that track move forward than the parties themselves," she added.

Albright's first overseas trip will be next month to Europe and Asia.

She also asserted that the Saudis "have been cooperative" in investigating last summer's Dhahran bombing, a statement that runs counter to opinions voiced last week by Attorney General Janet Reno and FBI director Louis Freeh.

"It continues to be a high priority."

Winning cards

In yesterday's daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the ace of spades, the nine of hearts, the 10 of diamonds and the seven of clubs.

ty of President Clinton and obviously then of me to make sure we get a comprehensive peace in the Middle East," she said of visiting the region.

"We have made great strides recently in the Hebron agreement and there is a dynamism in the Palestinian-Israeli track. Getting the Syrian-Israeli track back moving is also important and we want to be involved in working out a formula to make that happen."

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